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THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

ESTABLISHED 1859

The weekly newspaper for pharmacy and
all sections of the drug, pharmaceutical and
fine chemical, cosmetic, and allied industries

*Official organ of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland
and the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland*

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December 3, 1955

No. 3954

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The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

Volume 164

DECEMBER 3, 1955

No. 3954

A Levy on Manufacturers?

GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE'S "SUGGESTION"

MANUFACTURERS whose prices for drugs have been shown by costing to be excessive, should give to the Ministry of Health an annual rebate based on estimates of Health Service purchases of their preparations.

That suggestion is made by the Committee of Public Accounts in its report published on November 25 (see p. 625). The Committee states that the rebate should be calculated to reduce prices paid to a "fair and reasonable level." The Committee objects to a profit margin substantially exceeding that hitherto accepted as appropriate for Government contracts.

Proprietary Association

A NEW VICE-CHAIRMAN APPOINTED

NEW appointments made at a recent meeting of the executive committee of the Proprietary Association of Great Britain were: *Vice-chairman*, Mr. Stanley W. Day (chief proprietaries buyer, Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd.); *Member, Executive Committee*, Mr. J. W. Jamison (managing director, Aspro, Ltd.); *Delegate, British Code of Standards Committee*, Mr. N. F. Fabricius (managing director, Beecham Macleans, Ltd.); *Member, advertising subcommittee*, Mr. P. G. E. Warburton (chairman and managing director, William R. Warner & Co., Ltd.); *Members, Export Panel*, Messrs. R. Clark (Menley & James, Ltd.), P. Corker (Scott & Bowne, Ltd.), and L. G. R. Norford (Aspro, Ltd.).

£300 Fine Recommended

STAFF DIFFICULTY LED TO BREACH

MIDDLESEX Executive Council has recommended to the Minister of Health that a Middlesex company of chemists should be fined £300 for allowing an unqualified employee to dispense prescriptions. The company pleaded that from July 25, when the pharmacist they employed left, until September 10 they had been unable to obtain the services of a locum pharmacist. A pharmacist had, however, attended the pharmacy for two or three hours on many days to supervise dispensing. Examination of N.H.S. prescriptions handled by the pharmacy during that period had shown that many called for the supply of preparations which should have been dispensed only by or under the direct supervision of a registered pharmacist. The Council did not accept the view that attendance of a pharmacist for two or three hours a day constituted such supervision.

Dangerous Drugs

AN AUTHORITY AGAIN WITHDRAWN

THE Home Secretary has again withdrawn from Joseph Anatole France Tobin his authority to possess, to supply or to give prescriptions for Dangerous Drugs. The authority was previously withdrawn from Mr. Tobin in July 1943, but was restored in September 1954.

Penicillin Warning

CARELESS USE OF LOZENGES

BIRMINGHAM'S medical officer of health, after consultation with local doctors and dentists, issued a warning on November 23 about indiscriminate use of penicillin lozenges. He said: "If your doctor prescribes penicillin lozenges for you, it does not necessarily mean that they will have a beneficial effect on one or other members of the family who appear to have a similar ailment. And do not run to take them out of hiding when you feel that winter cold or catarrh coming on.

It is also a dangerous policy to believe that even though some member of your family is perfectly healthy, it would be better to give him or her those few left-over lozenges rather than waste them, in the belief that penicillin can do only good."

Poliomyelitis

MASS VACCINATION RECOMMENDED

MASS vaccination, as a matter of routine, should be adopted by countries with a high rate of incidence of poliomyelitis. That has been recommended by a group of experts on the disease, who met in Stockholm on November 21 for a five-day conference under the auspices of the World Health Organisation. In countries with a low rate of incidence of poliomyelitis with paralysis the experts suggest that decisions on vaccination should be taken only after careful consideration of all the relevant circumstances. According to the report, 10 million children in five countries have been vaccinated without unfavourable secondary effects, with the exception of a comparatively few cases in the United States caused by a faulty vaccine. Latest developments in production technique and control have resulted in a further increase of security, but permanent control of all vaccines produced is still needed. The experts state that Salk vaccine has been proved to give good protection for children between the ages of six and ten, the only age



PARLIAMENTARIANS AT DRUG WORKS: Members of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee on a visit to the Greenford works of Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd., on November 22. The party toured the company's research, bacteriology and microbiological assay departments and also saw streptomycin being filled.

groups for which proofs are sufficiently clear to allow a firm statement to be made. It is impossible, however, to say how long immunity will last. In considering mass vaccination, it is stated, two main considerations should be kept in mind—the seriousness of the poliomyelitis situation and the costs and practical possibilities of carrying out a programme in relation to available resources. Among questions discussed was whether inoculations, especially those causing strong local reactions, could increase the risk of poliomyelitis infection, and it was admitted that such a risk existed. The report emphasises the importance of facts produced on “live” vaccine, but it is pointed out that live vaccine is still in an early stage of development and that further research should be encouraged.

Salt Depletion

A FACTOR IN POLIOMYELITIS?

THE possibility that salt depletion in the body in the summer months may be a pre-disposing factor towards poliomyelitis is suggested by the county health inspector of Essex County Council (Mr. F. A. Irving). In a report on a preliminary investigation into the relationship between the incidence of poliomyelitis and environment, Mr. Irving suggests that the times at which rivers are low are the times when the human body may be suffering from the cumulative effects of evaporation, modified by the seasonal variations in climate and the personal habits and conditions of the individual. He says that the cumulative effect of the evaporative forces of nature may produce a degree of salt depletion during the summer months, and that that suggestion is supported by the known characteristics of the disease and by the lower incidence of poliomyelitis in areas in Essex with saline waters.

Drummond Fellowships

GRANTS FOR NUTRITION RESEARCH

APPLICATIONS are invited by the Drummond Trust, University College, Gower Street, London, W.C.1, for not more than one senior fellowship and not more than two junior fellowships for research in nutrition. The senior fellowship is £900 a year to which may be added a grant for research expenses not exceeding £50 a year, and the junior fellowship is £500 (£75 added for research expenses). Both are normally tenable for two years. Full particulars are available from the secretary, the Drummond Trust. Closing date for applications, January 27, 1956.

Retail Sales

BOARD OF TRADE FIGURES

RECENTLY issued Board of Trade figures show that sales of chemists' goods by large retailers were 7.2 per cent. lower in September than in August but 7.5 per cent. higher than in September 1954. Independent retailers' sales dropped by 11 per cent. (based on revised index number) in September compared with August under the old index; independent retailers' sales were 9 per cent. higher than in September 1954.

BRANCH AND ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

THAMES VALLEY

Niagara Falls to Grand Canyon

A MAGNIFICENT selection of colour transparencies illustrating his three months' visit to America and Canada in the winter of 1954-55 were shown by Mr. H. G. Moss at a meeting of the Thames Valley Pharmacists' Association at Kingston on November 10. Mr. Moss gave an account of his trip, beginning at Niagara Falls, on the Canadian border, and continuing down to California, including Los Angeles, Palm Springs, and the Grand Canyon in the Sierra Nevada, and returning from New York on the liner *Queen Elizabeth*. About 100 members and friends were present.

DARTFORD

Editing a Monthly

“AN Editor's Month—Behind the Scenes in the Production of a Pharmaceutical Monthly” was the title of an address given to the Dartford Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society at its meeting on November 24 by Mr. B. O'Malley (editor of *The Alchemist*). The various stages in the production of a particular monthly issue from the preparation of the proposed make-up to the posting of the final issue were described and illustrated by means of lantern slides. The various kinds and sizes of Plantin type, originated 400 years ago by a French worker in Holland called Plantin, were described and illustrated. The vital responsibilities of an editor, said Mr. O'MALLEY, were onerous, and facts and news must be presented accurately and in a pleasing, readable form.

DURHAM

Pharmacy Fitting

GIVING a talk on “Pharmacy Fitting” to the Durham County Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society at a recent meeting, Mr. ATKINS (chief designer, Myers of Old Street) said that the first step for a pharmacist thinking about alterations was to ask a firm of shop-fitters to examine the premises and discuss the style required, whether modern or period, to harmonise with the surroundings. Alterations and additions to match a particular style often added greatly to costs. Advice was needed on the basic structure of the building and on the fire regulations. The decisions having been taken, choice of detail took time. Such details were the type of counters (tray or covered), avoiding steaming up of windows (ventilator or double glazing), a visible, semi-visible or invisible dispensary, type of heating, lighting and floor covering. Most of those were matters of individual taste.

ABERDEEN

Conference Gavel Presented

THE handsome gavel inscribed to commemorate the meeting at Aberdeen in September of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, and presented to the Aberdeen and North-eastern Scottish Branch of the Society at the Conference closing session, was formally handed to Mr. ROBERT COWIE (chair-

man of the Branch) by Mr. W. A. PARK (chairman of the executive of the Scottish Department of the Society) at a recent meeting of the Branch. In making the presentation, Mr. PARK assured his audience that in Mr. Cowie, whose term of office had just begun, that symbol of office was in very capable hands, and that under his chairmanship the business of the Branch would be conducted with skill and vigour. The guest speaker was Dr. Elizabeth Gray (advisory officer in plant mycology, North of Scotland College of Agriculture). DR. GRAY chose as her subject “Plant Pharmacy” and showed how, from man's interference with plant growth, the vegetable kingdom became as prone to disease as were animals and human beings. She showed how crops, too, might suffer from deficiencies, virus and fungus diseases, and “all the ills that flesh is heir to,” and traced their treatment from early times.

PORTSMOUTH

Subscription Increased

IT was decided at the annual meeting of the Portsmouth Chemists' Association held in Southsea on November 22 to increase the annual subscription to 15s., previously unchanged for forty-six years. The meeting was preceded by an informal dinner at which Messrs. E. Thorpe and N. Francis (pharmacy department, Portsmouth College of Technology) and Mr. Goddard (clerk to the Portsmouth Executive Council) were guests. Speaking at the dinner, Mr. J. C. BLOOMFIELD (a member of the Pharmaceutical Society's Council and a former secretary of the Association) gave an account of the early days of the Association. Many of the founder members, said Mr. Bloomfield, were fathers or apprentice masters of the present members. The annual subscription of 10s. 6d. had been decided in 1909 and had remained the same to the present day. The original minute books could not be traced, but any information on their whereabouts, or other details of the early days would be of great interest. Mr. Bloomfield said he had been able to obtain quite a wealth of information from records of the pharmaceutical Press. At the meeting which followed, Mr. R. J. BERRY (president of the Association) reviewed the activities of the Association over the past year, which had included a drive to encourage local proprietors to take on apprentices, the establishment of dépôts of urgent ethicals, etc., for emergency use, and the valuable surplus stock scheme. A meeting had also been held on the proposed revaluation of business premises. The social activities had included a ladies' festival and an outing to a London theatre. The car club had had a successful inaugural year. The meeting decided to continue its affiliation to the local chamber of commerce and again donated a prize of £3 3s. to the pharmacy department of the Portsmouth College of Technology. Mr. J. C. Bloomfield was appointed local secretary to the Proprietary Articles Trade Association.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Two cameras, total value £53, were stolen by smash-and-grab thieves from Ascott's Pharmacies, Ltd., Millbrook Place, London, N.W.1, recently.

THE United Commercial Travellers' Association of Great Britain and Ireland is pressing for the adoption by employing firms of superannuation schemes for commercial travellers and for holidays with pay.

BRADFORD'S emergency drains-flushing system was used to dissipate about 200 gall. of trichlorethylene which escaped from storage at Westbrook Lanolin Co., Duckworth Lane, Bradford, into the city's drains on November 26.

LONG-SERVING employees of Stafford Allen & Sons, Ltd., were presented with cheques on their retirement on November 18 by Mr. A. W. Allen (a director). They were Mr. E. H. Younger (fifty-one years' service) and Mr. A. Cansdale (forty-seven years').

THE Wellcome Trust is offering a grant of £25,000 for the museum in the new college of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and a further £5,000 for two research rooms. The museum is being named the Wellcome Museum of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

EMPLOYEES of Howards of Ilford, Ltd., with more than forty years' service with the company to their credit attended a dinner recently in honour of five colleagues who had achieved their half-century. Mr. T. W. Howard (managing director) proposed the health of the guests of honour, and Mr. T. J. Hutchings (production manager), who himself recently completed fifty years of service, replied.

AT Birkenhead, on October 24, Mrs. Eunice Baird, aged 20, 60 Buccleugh Street, Birkenhead, mother of a fourteen-month-old baby, pleaded guilty to attempting to commit suicide by taking twenty-eight Amytal tablets prescribed for her grandmother. She was remanded to Manchester Prison hospital for a fortnight, during which the magistrates said they hoped to find her a place in a convalescent home for tired mothers.

To make better known the help that British business men can get from officials of the United Kingdom Government stationed abroad, the Foreign Office and the Board of Trade have published a pamphlet called "Helping the Exporter." The booklet is being distributed by the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, the Federation of British Industries, the National Union of Manufacturers, and the Institute of Export. Single copies are obtainable from the Board of Trade, Horse Guards Avenue, London, S.W.1.

LOCAL OFFICERS**PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY**

Stafford Branch.—*President*, Mr. H. Eymers; *Chairman*, Mr. B. Wells; *Treasurer*, Mr. D. Northwood; *Secretary*, Mr. J. Black, 3 Walden Avenue, Stone Road, Stafford.

PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATIONS

Portsmouth.—*President*, Mr. A. L. Harris; *Vice-president*, Mr. L. J. Chamberlain; *Treasurer*, Mr. P. H. Smith; *Secretary*, Mr. A. J. C. Bull, 87 Bury Road, Gosport, Hants.

TOPICAL REFLECTIONS

By Xrayser

Deep Depression

I read, with a growing sense of doom, the account of the area regional conference at Southampton (p. 607) and thought how conveniently placed was the venue for mass emigration. I recall, between thirty and forty years ago, an encouraging gentleman assuring me that pharmacy was finished, and it would appear from the dire prognostications of Messrs. Swan and Ridehalgh that it still is. The former, in an interesting survey of developments over the past fifty years, noticed the fact that, prior to N.H.I., many pharmacists in retail had no dispensing, but that the advent of the earlier Act brought about 20 per cent. of the total dispensing into the pharmacy, while the 1948 Act made the pharmacist dispenser to the nation. Thus it would seem, according to Mr. Swan, that successive enactments had brought a realisation that the pharmacist was the right person, by training, experience and examination, to carry out all pharmaceutical operations. Such a position seemed to be a fulfilment of the ideals of the founders of the Pharmaceutical Society and, in the speaker's words: "What pharmacy had not been able or willing to do for itself had been done in a moment by a political measure." Mr. Ridehalgh, on the other hand, thinks that the proportion of dispensing to counter trade will probably become, in retail pharmacy, 1 per cent. to 99 per cent., and that the inception of the Welfare State has been the beginning of the end. But I cannot think the position is so full of woe as all that. Government and public have given evidence of their confidence in our capabilities, and we should confidently assert our right to the position to which we have at last attained.

Pre-packed Medicines

Much of what was said at Southampton was speculative, and the forecaster is not infallible. But I must take the strongest exception to a statement attributed to Mr. Ridehalgh, who said, in reference to increasing demand for pre-packed medicines: "Getting the prescribed medicine into the patient's hands would not require any great degree of skill. Was qualification necessary to hand over a sealed package?" The answer is no, if the sealed package contains rolled oats or cane sugar. But if it is a package of medicine, particularly some of the extremely potent drugs of the present day, no greater fallacy exists than to imagine that anyone can hand it over. Far from making the "ordinary" dispensing chemist redundant, as the speaker suggested, the situation increases—at the pace of the new discoveries—the need for expert knowledge at the dispensing bench. As with the sale of poisons it is the skill and the knowledge behind the transaction that guarantee safety. The speaker's suggestion is on a par with the commonly expressed: "Anybody can count tablets." Agreed. But I have a preference for the counting of the correct tablets, and only a long and arduous course of study, and a stringent professional examination can ensure the accuracy so essential to public safety.

Cosmetics

It is a little unusual, speaking from memory, to find a discussion on cosmetics occupying one of the evening meetings of the Pharmaceutical Society, and I was surprised to read (p. 605) of what appeared to be a small attendance for such a topic. The historical background and the traditional link with pharmacy and medicine were recognised by the speaker, Mr. F. Atkins. Reference was made to allergy to ingredients used in earlier times, which recalled to my mind an account of the Lady Mary Wortley Montague, who, in the eighteenth century, made the interesting discovery that Balm of Gilead was held in high esteem in Turkey as an odoriferous unguent and cosmetic. She resolved to try its effects and was forced to the conclusion that the balsam was not suited to her skin. Lady Mary observed that, the day after she had used it, her face became red and swollen; "an inconvenience," the account euphemistically concludes, "which she suffered three days."

CUMBERLAND ACID PLANT AT WORK

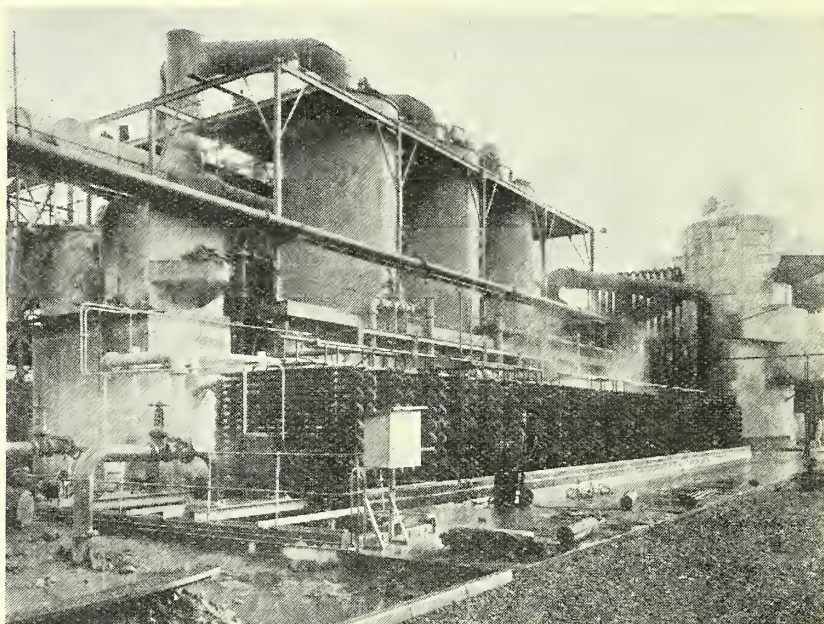
Abundant raw material on the spot

AMONGST the engagements carried out by the Duke of Edinburgh during his recent visit to Cumberland was an inspection of the new sulphuric acid plant of Solway Chemicals, Ltd., at Whitehaven. Sulphuric acid has been in production at the plant since June, when the first of the two units came into operation. Both units are now working and have since attained a maximum output both of acid and cement, the co-product of the process.

Reasons for Venture

The reasons for building the plant and why anhydrite was chosen as the sulphur-bearing material were described when the undertaking was started (*C. & D.*, June 7, 1952, p. 790). There was at that time a world shortage of sulphur, most of which came from the United States, and for which dollars (also in short supply then as now) had to be paid. Solway's parent company, Marchon Products, Ltd., was using ever-increasing amounts of acid to produce surface-acting agents, detergents, phosphoric acid, etc. Faced with a shortage, which at that time looked as though it would last for many years, Marchon decided to produce their own acid, and formed the subsidiary company (Solway Chemicals). Elemental sulphur supplies being restricted, it was at first intended to use pyrites as the raw material, but the Government would not sanction the building of a plant at that time which was dependent on raw material from overseas. The only alternative material was anhydrite which, by a stroke of coincidence, is richly distributed in the Whitehaven area. Subsequent boring proved that there was sufficient of the mineral beneath the proposed site of the plant to last for centuries. Shale, another raw material required for the process was also near at hand and is at present quarried within a stone's throw of the kilns. Coke and coal are also produced locally and arrive at the factory by rail.

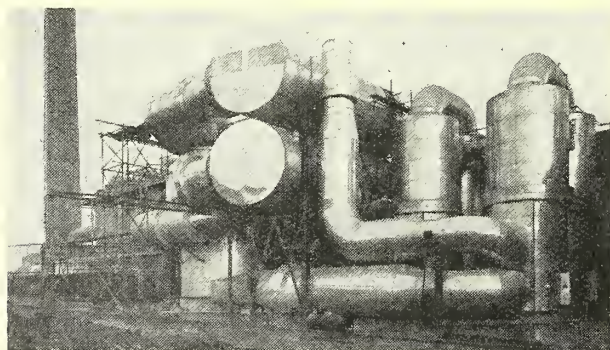
The method employed in production of the acid is not unique; there are similar plants at Billingham and Widnes (*C. & D.*, November 6, 1954, p. 461) and two in Eastern Europe. By the process, sulphuric acid and Portland cement are produced in equal proportions although that ratio can be varied to some extent, if required. The total annual output of the plant is estimated at 100,000 tons



THE ABSORBERS: Sulphur trioxide is absorbed into circulating sulphuric acid kept at constant strength by the addition of water.

of both commodities. The two kilns at the Solway plant each 230 ft. long by 11 ft. 2 in. diameter are lined to withstand temperatures up to 1,600° C. In normal operation the gas leaving the cool end of each kiln contains about 9 per cent. sulphur dioxide, while at the other end cement clinker is discharged at something like 140 tons a day. The gases leaving the kiln are cleaned and cooled by a system similar to that used when the acid is produced from burning pyrites. It is successively filtered, cooled and dried before being passed over a vanadium catalyst with an excess of air so that sulphur trioxide is formed. The sulphur trioxide is then passed into circulating sulphuric acid, which is kept at a constant strength by the controlled addition of water. The plant is also equipped for the production of oleum; both the acid and oleum are stored in a battery of 1,000-ton tanks, to which the material can be fed to road or rail tankers, a pipeline being connected from the tanks to the Marchon works, where about 50 per cent. of the output is expected to be employed, the remainder being available for sale to other industries.

employed, the remainder being available for sale to other industries.



HEAT EXCHANGERS AND CONVERTERS: Lagged to a maximum of 11 in. and encased in aluminium, the heat exchangers and converters are a conspicuous feature of the plant.

Whilst consumption of sulphuric acid by British industry has increased since 1951 the rise has not been so great as production which is over 40 per cent. higher than in that year. By early in the New Year, however, it is expected that production and sales will be more in step with one another.

Recently it was announced (*C. & D.*, November 12, p. 544) that Albright & Wilson, Ltd., were to buy all the ordinary and preference share capital of Marchon Products. It was stated that the change of ownership would not bring any immediate change in the present administration and Mr. F. Schon would continue to act as chairman of Marchon and Solway Chemicals. A statement by Mr. Schon said that owing to Marchon's rapid expansion its ordinary share capital had become completely out of gear in relation to the total capital employed in the business. In the past, it had been the practice to finance the expansion mainly by ploughing back all profits, but the necessity arose to find additional capital in the form of loans. That could not be done by the issue of additional ordinary share capital. Friendly relations between Messrs. Marchon and Albright & Wilson had existed for many years and, whilst both companies were engaged in the manufacture of phosphoric acid and its derivatives, they were operating entirely different processes.

The establishment of a chemical industry in a district which suffered greatly from unemployment during the depression years has helped to bring prosperity to the neighbourhood, for Marchon and Solway Chemicals are second only to the Government's atomic energy plants as the largest employers of labour.

DRUG COSTS UNDER SCRUTINY

Committee of Public Accounts urges action at retail and factory level

THE Committee of Public Accounts considers that it is most regrettable that the Health Departments are not yet able to give an assurance based on ascertained facts that their payments for the service of dispensing prescriptions are reasonable and fair both to the taxpayer and the chemist. That is stated in the Committee's third report for the session 1955-56, published on November 25.

The Committee trusts that every effort will be made to complete the inquiries and negotiations now proceeding so that the propriety of chemists' remuneration may be further considered by it this session "in the light of actual results."

On the subject of the uncollected shilling charge allowance the report notes that an allowance of 0.075d. instead of 0.25d. had been found appropriate by investigators and would save the Exchequer about £100,000 a year. The Committee considers that an adjustment to the lower figure should be made, if only provisionally, in the light of ascertained facts. The Ministry had explained that no immediate reduction had been made because the remuneration of chemists as a whole, of which that item formed a part, was at present under consideration.

[The adjustment to 0.075d. has now been made (see *C. & D.*, October 1, p. 369).]

Remuneration in Scotland

The Committee observes that the dispensing fee paid to chemists in Scotland averages 1s. 6d. per prescription whereas for chemists in England and Wales it averages 1s. 1d.; and that the tariff rates paid to chemists in Scotland for ingredients include a number of rounding up allowances and adjustments made in translating wholesale rates into rates for the smaller quantities used in individual prescriptions. The Committee appreciates that the Scottish terms were awarded following arbitration in 1951. It also recognises that there may be differences in prescribing and dispensing practice in the two countries, and that any comparison between Scottish and English terms should be based on the chemists' overall remuneration. The Committee regrets that so far, in the absence of any information on the earnings of chemists, it has not been possible to make such a comparison. It re-affirms the emphatic opinion expressed by the Committee of Session 1953-54 that differences in chemists' remuneration not justified by differences in cost should be discontinued, and it recommends that early and special consideration should be given to that subject.

Committee "Seriously Concerned"

The Committee states that it was glad to be assured that the prices paid for standard drugs had, on the whole, not been excessive. The results of the investigations into proprietary preparations and basic drugs, however, caused

it serious concern, and that concern was not diminished by the statements made in evidence by the Ministry and the Treasury that little progress had been made in the negotiations with the industry and that they had no idea of when agreement would be reached. The Committee could not view with equanimity the continued payment of prices which, on the evidence now forthcoming, included a profit margin substantially in excess of that hitherto accepted as appropriate for Government contracts. It recognised that, as drugs provided under the National Health Service were supplied by retail chemists from stocks and not purchased direct by the Government, there might be practical difficulties in arrang-

ing special and satisfactory prices for them. The Committee trusts that a way will be found of overcoming those difficulties but, should it not, it suggests that consideration should be given to the possibility of arrangements to obtain from manufacturers, whose prices have been shown by costing to be excessive, annual rebates based on estimates of Health Service purchases of their preparations and calculated to reduce the prices paid to a fair and reasonable level.

The Committee expresses concern at the growing practice of prescribing proprietaries, many of which are not therapeutically superior to and cost more than the equivalent standard preparations.

HISTORY OF PRICE MAINTENANCE

Association's progress outlined at Leeds

LEEDS chemists and the drug trade wholesalers who supplied them had always been strong supporters of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association, said Mr. H. E. CHAPMAN (secretary of the Association), addressing a recent meeting of the Leeds Branch of the National Pharmaceutical Union.

Early Days in Leeds

Early in 1896, said Mr. Chapman, a few months after the Association was launched, the founder, Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, addressed what was described as "a representative meeting of chemists residing in Leeds and neighbourhood" and explained to them that the principal object of the Association was to counteract "that terrible evil of cutting, by which the interests of the three sections of the trade were seriously and injuriously affected." Leeds had provided four presidents of the P.A.T.A. Three of them (Messrs. Benjamin Hirst, H. M. Read and H. G. T. Read) were principals of the same wholesale house. The fourth, Mr. N. N. Armitage, was a retail pharmacist. For some twenty-five years the P.A.T.A. and its system progressively developed without experiencing serious challenge from any quarter.

The founders satisfied themselves, by taking the highest legal opinion, that its methods were within the law, and later, it was established in the courts that the system of price protection effected by combination between manufacturers and distributors, as operated by the P.A.T.A., was a proper method of defending trade interests. The Association decided in 1906 that it could only retain in membership those manufacturers of proprietary articles who agreed not to allow their minimum retail prices to be subjected to the allowance of dividend or rebate. That decision antagonised the co-operative movement and resulted in a campaign against the Association's policy. Representatives of the co-operative movement made repeated attacks on the P.A.T.A. and their attitude was believed to have been a factor in the institution of the various official inquiries into the price maintenance system during the past

thirty-five years. The outcome of those inquiries was that, first, a subcommittee of the Central Profiteering Committee, appointed in 1919, dealing with the subject of the fixing of retail prices as between manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers, reported that the system worked to the advantage of the public.

The next inquiry, in 1930, dealt with "Restraint of Trade." The P.A.T.A. submitted to the Committee evidence, oral and documentary, designed to show not only that the Association had placed the distribution of proprietary articles on a fair and economic level, but also that its system had much improved labour and wage conditions in all sections of the trade and that it was not detrimental to the public interest.

The Restraint of Trade Committee reported (1931) that it was not satisfied that if a change in the law were made the interests of the public would be better served. The Committee's report was regarded as a "charter," consolidating the price maintenance system which, it was expected, would not be subjected to further investigation. However, after a lapse of seventeen years, resale price maintenance was again made the subject of an official probe.

Lloyd Jacob Committee

The then President of the Board of Trade appointed a committee (the Lloyd Jacob Committee) to consider and report "whether in the light of present conditions . . . any measures are desirable to prevent or regulate its continuance." The report of the committee favoured the retention of the price maintenance system in so far as it was operated by the individual manufacturer in respect of his own goods, but recommended that price maintenance effected by combination (as in the case of the P.A.T.A.) should be made illegal.

That report brought about the co-operation, under one central co-ordinating committee, of a number of trade associations. That body, the Fair Prices Defence Committee, enjoyed the full support of the P.A.T.A. and was recognised in official quarters.

COMPANY NEWS

Previous year's figures in parentheses

SHARPLES CENTRIFUGES, LTD. — Mr. M. E. O'Keefe, Trowbridge, B.Sc., has been appointed a director.

BRITISH SCHERING, LTD. — Messrs. C. Norman, M.P.S., D.B.A., and V. M. Bond, B.Pharm., A.R.I.C., F.P.S., have been elected to the board.

WHIFFEN & SONS, LTD. — Mr. A. P. Lowes (production manager) has been appointed a director of the company.

T. & H. SMITH, LTD. — Mr. A. Forsyth, B.Sc., M.P.S., has been appointed deputy managing director. Mr. Forsyth joined the company in 1950 as sales manager and was appointed a director in 1952.

LAPORTE INDUSTRIES, LTD. — Acceptances of the recent offer to stockholders (see *C. & D.*, November 12, p. 544) totalled over 98 per cent. of the shares offered. Applications for "additional" shares amounted to more than twenty times the number of shares available.

ALLEN & HANBURY, LTD. — A final dividend of 2s. per share, making 3s. 6d. in all on the ordinary shares, is recommended for the year ended June 30 (same). Group net profit for the year, after all charges including taxation, is £137,172 (£83,573); taxation, £150,377 (£106,842); net profit attributable to the group, £134,572 (£81,805); parent company profit after taxation, £105,429 (£71,019); balance brought forward, £52,090 (£40,472).

MANCHESTER OIL REFINERY (HOLDINGS), LTD. — In announcing the interim dividend of 4 per cent., less tax, stockholders are advised that the current year's profits will be somewhat lower than in the previous financial year. Assuming that current trading conditions are maintained during the remaining six weeks of the financial year, the board expects to recommend the payment of a final dividend of 8½ per cent., less tax, thus making a total distribution of 12½ per cent., less tax, as in the previous year. During last year the company entered into a programme of development of certain new products, including fine chemicals, the demand for which entailed the extension of production facilities, which have given rise to certain technical difficulties, and it is expected that this setback will be reflected in a reduction in the group profitability. Those difficulties, the statement adds, now appear to be resolved.

Overseas Company

THE Wellcome Foundation, Ltd., has registered an Italian subsidiary, Burroughs Wellcome Italiana, S.p.A., with an initial capital of lire 25 millions. The company has acquired a factory on the outskirts of Rome with the address 1018 Via Tiburtina, Rome, and took possession on December 1. The premises are partly equipped and, with the additional plant now being provided, it is expected that production will begin early in 1956. Mr. A. E. Teesdale, M.P.S., has been appointed production manager.

LEGAL REPORTS

Theft From Employers

At Chesterfield borough magistrates' court recently, Irene Vera Green, aged twenty, 55 Newlands Dale, Chesterfield, pleaded guilty to stealing £2 from her employers, Boots, Ltd., Chesterfield, and to making a false entry in a counter book to cover up the theft. She asked for four other offences to be taken into consideration. She was placed on probation.

Application Disallowed

In the Chancery Division, London, on November 24, Mr. Justice Lloyd-Jacob held that Vitamins, Ltd., Upper Mall, London, W.6, should not be permitted to register the word "Pabalate" as a trade mark for pharmaceutical substances. His lordship allowed, with costs, an appeal by A. H. Robins Co., Inc., manufacturing chemists, Richmond, Virginia, against a decision of

the Assistant Comptroller who had found in favour of the English company. The American company has used the word Pabalate for some years in the Western Hemisphere, but Vitamins, Ltd., maintained that the word was unknown in the United Kingdom, and that, by implication, Messrs. Robins had abandoned any intention of using Pabalate in the U.K. For the American company it was argued that the application by Vitamins, Ltd., contravened provisions of the Trade Marks Act, 1938, relating to foreign trade marks. Mr. Justice Lloyd-Jacob said that, if he had had only the material before him that was before the Assistant Comptroller, he would have agreed with that officer. Pabalate was being advertised in journals now arriving in the U.K., and he was not satisfied that the public interest would be best served by permitting Vitamins, Ltd., to register the trade mark.

IN PARLIAMENT

BY A MEMBER OF THE PRESS GALLERY, HOUSE OF COMMONS

MR. HEATHCOT AMORY (Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food) told Mr. N. N. DODDS on November 17, that the preservatives subcommittee of the Food Standards Committee had now considered the comments received on its recommendations to ban certain colouring substances in food and that it had prepared a supplementary report. That report had been adopted by the Food Standards Committee and was being published.

Consumer Goods and Libel Law

MR. DEREK WALKER-SMITH (Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade) told MRS. J. MANN on November 22 that the work of the Women's Advisory Committee [which advises on consumer goods] of the British Standards Institution had not been prejudiced by the law of libel.

British Standards Grant

MR. DEREK WALKER-SMITH (Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade) told MISS E. F. BURTON on November 22 that the maximum grant to the British Standards Institution was being increased by £10,000 to £130,000 in the financial year 1956-57.

Exports to China

MR. A. R. W. LOW (Minister of State, Board of Trade) told Mr. M. ORBACH, in a written answer on November 22, that the Government had lifted towards the end of 1953 the restrictions imposed in 1951 on the export to China of sodium peroxide, antibiotics, sulphonamides, and antimalarial drugs.

Guillebaud Report Received

MR. IAIN MACLEOD (Minister of Health) told WING COMMANDER E. E. BULLUS, in a written answer on November 24, that he and the Secretary of State for Scotland had received the report of the Guillebaud committee on the cost of the National Health Service. Every priority was being given to printing it so that it might be

in the hands of members at the earliest moment, but the document was voluminous (the summary alone covered more than fifty typescript pages) and it would be some weeks before publication could take place. Meantime it would be improper for him to attempt either to summarise the report or to comment on its recommendations.

Industrial Health

SIR WALTER MONCKTON (Minister of Labour and National Service) told Dr. B. STROSS on November 24 that the Industrial Health Advisory Committee had recommended the stimulation of the further development of voluntary medical supervision in the steel foundry, iron and steel manufacturing, rubber and chemical industries. Asked whether there could not be an extension to all industries in which noxious fumes and dust were inhaled by workers, and whether he would bear in mind that in copper smelting foundries cadmium was used, the fumes from which were deadly, the Minister promised to bring that to the notice of the Committee. Sir Walter also told Dr. Stross on the same date that he was satisfied that the officers concerned in employment exchanges with persons disabled by industrial dermatitis were aware that that disease was not contagious. The chief inspector of factories had revised and re-issued a leaflet and a poster containing advice on prevention, and further measures to stimulate the interest of employers and workers in the need for precautions were under consideration. Dr. Stross drew the Minister's attention to hydrocortisone ointments, which, although expensive, were said to cure most of those lesions in a few days.

Budget Cost to N.H.S.

MR. IAIN MACLEOD (Minister of Health) told Mr. A. BLENKINSOP, in a written reply on November 28, that the increased cost to the National Health Service of the proposed increased taxation was roughly £1 million a year.

MARRIAGE

HOLMES—SWALLOW. — At St. James's Church, Tong, Bradford, Yorks, on November 26, Jeffrey Holmes, Albert Crescent, Birkenshaw, Bradford, to Muriel Swallow, Westgate Hill, Bradford (a director of British Chemotherapeutic Products, Ltd., Grant Street, Bradford).

DEATHS

BURLAND. — At the Royal Surrey Hospital, Guildford, on November 14, Mr. Walter Vincent Burland, M.P.S., 46 Woodbridge Road, Guildford, Surrey, aged eighty-three. Mr. Burland qualified in 1894.

BOWEN. — At Oldchurch Hospital, Romford, Essex, on November 2, Mr. Edgar Cecil Bowen, F.P.S., 175 Langley Crescent, Dagenham, Essex, aged eighty-one. Mr. Bowen qualified as a chemist and druggist in 1895 and passed the Pharmaceutical Chemist examination in 1896. He was superintendent of the Plaistow branch of Breeze's Pharmacies, Ltd.

FAIRLEE. — At his home, 99 West Side, Clapham Common, London, on November 23, Mr. Alfred James Fairlee, M.P.S. Mr. Fairlee qualified in 1895. He was founder and chairman of A. J. Fairlee, Ltd., chemists, Lavender Hill, London. He was apprenticed in Carlisle and after qualifying from

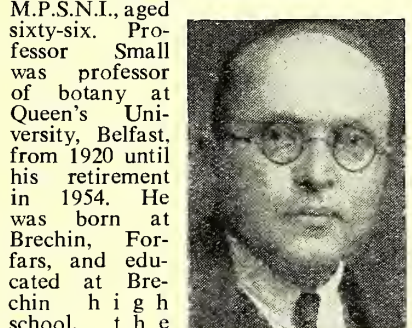
Will's College of Pharmacy, London, he served with Mr. F. G. Curtis, Ealing, and in 1896 joined the staff of the Plough Court pharmacy of Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., in the City of London. Later he was promoted senior pharmacist there. In 1906 he set up in business on his own account at Lavender Hill, Battersea. Mr. Fairlee's reminiscences of pharmacy in London at the beginning of the century were published in the *C. & D.*, December 30, 1950, p. 742. He had a special liking for the historical aspects of pharmacy and he was an enthusiastic collector of historical objects connected with the practice of pharmacy. A selection of them was illustrated in the *C. & D.*, Annual Special Issue, June 28, 1952, p. 900. He was a founder-member and a past-president of the Battersea Rotary Club. He is survived by his widow, two daughters and one son, Dr. J. Fairlee, F.P.S., B.Pharm, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

PRICE. — At 8 Spring Mount, Harrogate, on November 24, Mr. Albert H. Price, M.P.S., aged seventy-four. Mr. Price qualified in 1920.

ROBINSON. — Suddenly, in London in November, Professor Harold Roper Robinson, F.R.S., aged sixty-six. Professor Robinson was, until his resignation at the beginning of November, Vice-Chancellor of London

University, and was regarded as outstanding among his contemporaries in physical science, and for his contributions to the study of rays and atomic structures. He was educated at Manchester University where he obtained his D.Sc., and after service in the 1914-18 war he was granted the Moseley research studentship of the Royal Society and went to Trinity College, Cambridge, where he was granted a Ph.D. He was successively reader and Carnegie teaching fellow in the University of Edinburgh, professor of physics in University College, Cardiff, and finally, in 1930, professor of physics in Queen Mary College, University of London, of which he became vice-principal in 1946. He resigned both posts in 1953.

SMALL. — At Hillhall Road, Lisburn, co. Antrim, on November 28, Professor James Small, D.Sc., F.P.S., M.P.S.N.I., aged sixty-six. Professor Small was professor of botany at Queen's University, Belfast, from 1920 until his retirement in 1954. He was born at Brechin, Forfar, and educated at Brechin high school, the Pharmaceutical Society's School of Pharmacy, and Birkbeck College, London. He was a Herbarium medallist and Bell scholar of the Pharmaceutical Society in 1910. He qualified as a chemist and druggist in 1911, and passed the Pharmaceutical Chemist examination in 1912. In the following year he gained his B.Sc. degree. After service during the 1914-18 war he was appointed lecturer in botany at Armstrong College, Newcastle, in 1916. He was also assistant lecturer in the same subject at Bedford College, London, and at the Pharmaceutical Society's School of Pharmacy from 1917 to 1920, when he was appointed professor of botany at Queen's University, Belfast. He obtained the degree of D.Sc. in 1919. Professor Small took a practical interest in the activities of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland, on the Council of which he was one of the University representatives from its inception. In 1950 he was elected an honorary member of that Society. He is survived by his widow, two sons and a daughter.



SMITH. — Suddenly, on November 24 Mr. John Smith, M.P.S., 3 Mertoun Place, Edinburgh. Mr. Smith qualified in 1920.

PERSONALITIES

MR. FRED STOREY, C.B.E., Ph.C.I., Ph.C.N.I. (director, Fred Storey, Ltd.), has been re-elected president of the Belfast Natural History and Philosophical Society for a third year.

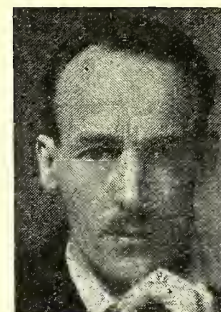
MR. W. HEAP, M.P.S., Burnley, Lancs, a member of Burnley Hospital Management Committee since its for-

mation, has been nominated by that body to fill a vacancy on the Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

MR. CARL NORMAN, who was recently elected to the board of British Schering, Ltd. (see p. 626), was apprenticed with the late Mr. P. C. G. Stiles at Market Harborough and qualified in 1931. After a short period in retail pharmacy he joined Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd., in 1934, leaving in 1945 to join Roche Products, Ltd. In 1948 he was appointed home sales manager to British Schering, Ltd., and became general sales manager in charge of all pharmaceutical and agricultural sales in 1955. Mr. Norman, who is a Rotarian and a member of the Nutrition Society, is immediate past-president of the North Metropolitan Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society and has been social secretary for many years. He was secretary of the entertainments and excursions committee both of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, London, 1953, and of the Congress of the International Pharmaceutical Federation in September.



Mr. Carl Norman



Mr. V. M. Bond

MR. V. M. BOND, who is also appointed to the board of British Schering, Ltd., was apprenticed with Davidson and Kay, Ltd., Aberdeen. He joined British Schering in 1948 from Glaxo Laboratories. After two years as head of the pharmaceutical processing department, he was appointed technical services manager and later marketing controller.

BUSINESS CHANGES

MR. A. R. MILES, M.P.S., is shortly opening a pharmacy at 96 Chessington Road, West Ewell, Surrey.

MR. ALFRED BOOTH, M.P.S., has acquired the Oak Pharmacy, 724 Mansfield Road, Woodthorpe, Nottingham, formerly owned by the late Mr. C. F. Betts.

SAVORY & MOORE, LTD., have acquired the pharmacy of Mr. R. Woolby Brooke, M.P.S., 38 Gloucester Road, London, S.W.7.

Appointment

D. & W. GIBBS, LTD., Portman Square, London, W.1, have appointed Mr. Albert L. Smith, A.C.I.S., their secretary.

Dr. DAVIS ON "N.H.S. TOPICS"

Joint meeting at Hounslow

GIVING an address on "Current N.H.S. Topics" at the annual joint meeting of the West Middlesex, Wembley and Hounslow Branches of the Pharmaceutical Society held at Ealing on November 15, DR. H. DAVIS, C.B.E. (chief pharmacist, Ministry of Health), said that it would be wrong of him to comment on questions directly affecting remuneration in view of the outstanding claims that were still being negotiated. Dealing first with the subject of proprietaries, DR. DAVIS warned against generalisation and over-simplification of that complex subject. He said that it would be as wrong to condemn all proprietaries as it would be to suggest that the best medical treatment could be obtained by the exclusive use of proprietaries. Since the British Pharmacopœia Commission considered it necessary to include a number of compounds which were available only in one proprietary form, the futility of the first statement was obvious. On the other hand, the strict control of potency and quality of official substances made the opposite statement untenable.

Dr. Davis said that the latest analysis (October 1954) for a sample of over 100,000 prescriptions, showed the continuing fall in the number of mixtures dispensed to 21 per cent., and an increase in the use of proprietaries to 38.5 per cent. or higher. Proprietaries represented 61 per cent. of the ingredient cost of all prescriptions during that month and new drugs were becoming more and more complex; they were often the outcome of costly research which, inevitably, had to be recovered in the price of the drug. The cost of medical treatment would continue to rise as research for new drugs progressed. Cortisone and hydrocortisone preparations would be available to the general practitioner on December 5 and as all available preparations were proprietaries that would influence future figures. He hoped that there would soon be some official formulations of those drugs for such things as ointments and eye-drops.

On the question of the colouring of tablets, the arguments for uncoloured tablets were sound and impossible to refute on theoretical grounds. If a new drug was first introduced to doctors and patients as a white tablet there was no justification for introducing a coloured range; but if a drug was introduced, say, as a yellow tablet, and later it became so important as to warrant inclusion in the B.P. or B.P.C. or N.F., then, in the interval between introduction and inclusion in official books of reference, manufacturers copied the proprietary and sold yellow tablets, no white tablets appearing on the market, and the official tablet had to be uncoloured, what was the Ministry to do? Also the psychological effect of colour in any case could not be ignored. Furthermore, with regard to the export market, manufacturers had strong claims for being allowed to colour tablets and still call them official. From the first three considerations mentioned, the Ministry was justified in stating that coloured

tablets would be paid for if supplied on EC10's, but Dr. Davis was opposed to indiscriminate colouring of tablets. Too much was made of the argument that it was difficult to obtain standard colours and he would be interested to hear the members' views on that subject.

On the subject of stability and testing of penicillin preparations, Dr. Davis said that most of the members would probably remember the report of the Birmingham analyst in 1953 when tests on eighty-two samples of oral penicillin showed that nineteen of them did not comply with the Pharmacopœia standard of not less than 90 per cent. of the labelled potency. Dr. Davis said that his Department was convinced from its analytical evidence that the tablets were stable if care was taken to keep down the initial moisture content; the B.P. Addendum 1955 had introduced a test to limit that moisture to 1 per cent. when dried over phosphorus pentoxide at a pressure not exceeding 5 mm. of mercury.

As a result of that report covering one city it was the duty of his Department to introduce penicillin preparations into the drug testing scheme. That had been done, and results showed a much improved picture. Of sixteen samples of penicillin oral tablets dispensed, fifteen were satisfactory

and the one that was unsatisfactory was due to a dispensing error, lozenges being dispensed instead of tablets. The position with regard to penicillin lozenges was not so good, five out of nineteen being below standard; one had less than 100 units per lozenge. It was the duty of the pharmacist to see that important drugs of that type were bought in optimal quantities and stored under optimal conditions in order to ensure the supply to the patient of preparations of the correct potency.

Dr. Davis asked if a doctor instructed a pharmacist to write the details of the prescription on the label, was the pharmacist acting within his professional rights if he refused to do so? Such a case had arisen, his Department had been informed and its views sought, and he had asked for the views of his medical colleagues. It was their view that no action could be taken by the Ministry of Health, but that that was something that should be discussed between the medical practitioner and the pharmacist concerned. If that did not provide a satisfactory solution, the matter should be discussed at a higher level between the two professional organisations—the British Medical Association and the Pharmaceutical Society.

MR. WESTERMAN (chairman, Wembley Branch) proposed and MR. W. WATERMAN (chairman, Hounslow Branch) seconded a vote of thanks to the speaker.

PHARMACOLOGY OF HORMONES

Their properties and uses described

IN the old days, said DR. R. P. EDKINS (chief pharmacist, Organon Laboratories, Ltd.), addressing a meeting of the Glasgow and South-western Scottish Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society on November 9, the main source of new drugs seemed to be dying Indians, who, in return for a sip of water, were in the habit of revealing the secrets of substances unknown to the pharmacopœia. Now, however, the supply of dying Indians seemed to have died out, and recourse had had to be made to the new tribe of pharmacologists, who proceeded to produce chemical substances of known composition. Of the various substances which they had provided, the series of hormones was important. The hormone, said Dr. Edkins, was the product of a ductless gland, which was secreted by that gland into the blood stream, and carried by the blood stream to its site of action. Hormones fell into two classes. Those of the steroid class had the same basic nuclear structure. The second class, protein hormones, were, with one or two exceptions, of quite unknown structure.

The two groups were totally different in their pharmacological reactions. The steroid group, of a crystalline chemical substance, had specific formula; their purity could be determined by chemical or physicochemical means; they were mostly insoluble in water, were stable to heat, and soluble in oil. Those of the other group were soluble in water, they were in general not stable to heat, and were of indeterminate chemical constitution and could only have their activity assigned to them by pharma-

cological assays. DR. EDKINS traced the history of the developments in the use of the steroid hormones, and described what had been done to meet the need for something quick-acting and having a long life, and the introduction of the implant pellet. There were new discoveries being made in the hormone field which appeared to be quite outside the established uses. One was claimed to be the last word in anaesthetics, producing no ill effects after administration, and keeping the patient in a state of anaesthesia deeper than could be obtained from most anaesthetics. It appeared to be largely devoid of risk. In reply to a question by MR. G. R. MILNE, DR. EDKINS stated that there was no doubt that hormone substances could be absorbed through the skin. MR. J. J. LEWIS said that there seemed to be a tendency among hormone manufacturers almost to permute their products with mixed tablets. It looked very much as if they were pulling one way and pushing another.

DR. EDKINS replied that many hormones had a number of activities. The fundamental activities of some were precisely opposite and they would neutralise each other if given in the correct relative dosages. Some of the secondary effects of those hormones would not be so neutralised, so that if it was wished to produce the secondary effects without producing the primary ones the hormones could be mixed. MR. W. T. WILSON (chairman of the Branch) presided. A vote of thanks to Dr. Edkins was moved by MR. R. B. BIRRELL (vice-chairman).

TRADE NOTES

Withdrawn from Range.—E. R. Squibb & Sons, Ltd., 17 Old Bond Street, London, W.1, announce that they have withdrawn from their manufacturing range all their aminophylline preparations and mannitol hexantrate tablets, and that those products are no longer available in the United Kingdom.

Cortisone Pioneers.—Merck-Sharp & Dohme, Ltd., Hoddesdon, Herts, point out that Merck & Co., Inc., U.S.A., gave the world its first cortisone and hydrocortisone. Today, a range of officially approved formulations of steroids is available from the company for use in general practice.

Prices Corrected.—Britton, Malcolm & Co., Ltd., 38 Southwark Bridge Road, London, S.E.1, regret an error in the prices given for their No. 18 throat and nose spray and Resila Eight spray in the company's announcement in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, November 26. The correct prices are given on p. 650 of this issue.

"Rolls-Royce" of Electric Blankets.—The Vigilux electric blanket issued by the Warm-Glow Co., Ltd., Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, is a woollen blanket in pastel colours with waterproof element and "infinitely variable" illuminated bedside control that can be set at any temperature. It is described by the makers as the "Rolls-Royce" of electric blankets.

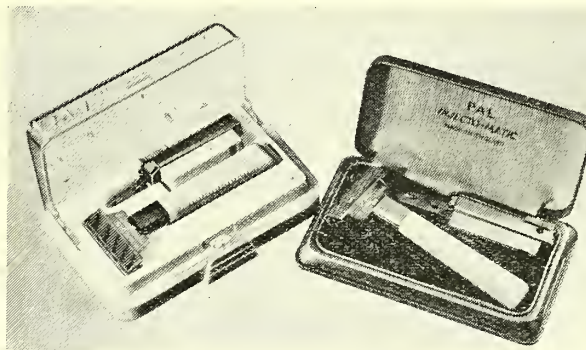
Pethidine.—Duncan, Flockhart & Co., Ltd., 104 Holyrood Road, Edinburgh, 8, announce that they are now manufacturing pethidine hydrochloride. It is available as 25-mgm. or 50-mgm. tablets in bottles of 100 and 500; as an injection in boxes of twelve and 100 ampoules containing 50 mgm. in 1 ml or 100 mgm. in 2 mls, and in a 50-ml rubber-capped bottle containing 50 mgm. per ml; and as powder in bottle of 1 gm.

On Prescription.—Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd., Station Street, Nottingham, point out that their Cortistab and

Hydrocortistab are among the cortisone and hydrocortisone preparations that may be prescribed on EC10 forms from December 5. Cortistab is presented in bottle of forty 25-mgm. tablets; vial of 10 mls of injection (25 mgm. per ml); bottle of 3 mls of eye drops (1 per cent.) and tube of 3 gm. of eye ointment (1 per cent.). Hydrocortistab is issued in bottle of 100 20-mgm. tablets; 20-ml ampoule of intravenous injection (5 mgm. per ml); and 5-ml vial of local injection of hydrocortisone acetate (25 mgm. per ml).

Production not Affected.—In thanking all who expressed concern about the recent fire in one of the company's buildings, or who made offers of help, Roussel Laboratories, Ltd., 847 Harrow Road, London, N.W.10, state that fortunately the fire was confined to an annexe used for storing cartons and other packing materials. Stocks of cortisone or hydrocortisone in the main buildings were not involved. Production has not been affected and all orders are being dispatched immediately as usual. The company thank suppliers of cartons, etc., who have already delivered replacements of much of the destroyed packing material.

Razor Sets.—The Pal Injecto-matic razor is available from the manufacturers, Ever-Ready Razor Products, Ltd., The Hyde, London, N.W.9, in a *de-luxe* and a popular set as illustrated. The popular is available in an attractive gift wrapper for sale during the Christmas season.



NEW PRODUCTS AND PACKS

A New Floor-model Health Lamp.—The new model 465 prescription health lamp of Barber Electrical Services, Ltd., Birmingham, 16, features ultra-violet, infra-red and luminous-heat. It is adjustable, stable, mobile and has no exposed electrical contacts.

Anti-depressive Agent.—Ciba Laboratories, Ltd., Horsham, Sussex, have introduced a new speciality Ritalin, the hydrochloride of phenyl-(α -piperidyl)-acetic acid methyl ester. The compound is a central nervous stimulant with an action intermediate between the actions of the amphetamines and of caffeine. It has no effect on the appetite, and is stated to be smoother in action, with less agitation and tension, than the amphetamines are usually observed to be. Ritalin is indicated in various types of depression and for the relief of physical and mental fatigue. It is presented as 10-mgm. tablets in bottles of twenty-five, 100 and 500.

A New Pack for Suppositories.—In order to present suppositories in a new and improved pack, Richard Daniel & Son, Ltd., Mansfield Road, Derby, and Grosvenor Street, Ashton-under-Lyne,

are issuing their full range of suppositories sold for dispensing purposes in a slide-type box of a single row of twelve. A plastic mould nesting for the suppositories enables one to be easily extracted without disturbing the others. The label is detachable. A sample and price list are sent on application.

Powder Brush and Dressing Comb.—The Halex division of the British Xylonite Co., Ltd., Highams Park, London, E.4, have produced for separate sale a new, soft, powder brush in pearl shades of green, pink or blue. The company are also marketing a new hand-finished, fine-toothed dressing comb 7 in. long, made of nylon, and suitable for men or women. The comb is obtainable in pink, blue, green or black, and carries a year's guarantee. A display carton of 1 doz. is available.

Mirror-backed Hairbrush.—Alfred Franks & Bartlett Co., Ltd., 226 Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.1, are marketing a new product, the Bartex mirror-backed hairbrush in sapphire blue, rose pink, or apple green. The brush has polythene bristles. Each brush is wrapped in transparent tissue.



COUNTER "DISPENSER": Produced by Southalls (Birmingham), Ltd., the counter "dispenser" illustrated accommodates the company's new White Lilac soluble santowels in all sizes, as well as Southalls' Travla and Sanbelts packs.

Pharmacy: What of the future?

SYMPOSIUM AT SOUTHAMPTON REGIONAL CONFERENCE

(Concluded from THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, November 26, p. 608).

Further controversial remarks on the future of pharmacy were made by MR. N. FRANCIS, Portsmouth.

MR. FRANCIS first referred to pharmacists in industry, saying that the future of pharmacy in that field was reasonably well assured. There was no difficulty in placing the right kind of student in industrial posts; the difficulty was rather that of meeting the demand.

In his early years in pharmacy, said Mr. Francis, dispensing had been varied, and the preparation of galenicals the rule rather than the exception. There had been no stock mixtures, few tablets, and only an occasional proprietary prescribed. For all the subjects studied for the Chemist and Druggist Qualifying examination, the pharmacist could find some application in his daily routine. The N.H.I. Act, 1911, had brought increased dispensing, but with diminishing reward. That had led to a tendency to turn to the manufacturing houses for supplies previously made on the premises so that the volume of pure pharmacy practised shrank to small proportions in some businesses.

Pure Pharmacy in Retail

How much pure pharmacy was practised in many retail businesses now? Would the dispensing balance eventually follow the plaster iron into limbo? The pill machine was slinking out of the back door. Would the pharmacists' other working tools follow?

But what of the newer methods of presenting drugs? How many injections did the retail pharmacist supply daily? How many did he prepare and sterilise? If he had a Therapeutic Substances Act licence, did it pay him? Had the average pharmacy adequate facilities, or any facilities at all, for aseptic technique or method of sterilisation? Was the salvation of pharmacy to be found in pharmaceutical microbiology, or in an exhaustive knowledge of blood products, or of radioactive isotopes? The retail pharmacist would not gain much comfort from any of them. The place for pure pharmacy was now to be found in industry and in the larger hospitals. What, then, was left for the poor retailer? Sir Hugh Linstead, in his concluding remarks to the International Pharmaceutical Federation recently in London, had said that one of the major rôles for the pharmacist was to be the adviser in pharmacology to the general practitioner of medicine. He must be ready to differentiate between firm and firm, product and product, advertisement and advertisement. In his hospital training the young doctor was taught to seek the aid of the pharmacist on such matters as the action and uses of new remedies and the best means of presenting them, and the retail man must be ready to continue that service to the general practitioner. There was, however, a small difficulty to be overcome. But nowhere was there sug-

gestion as to how that service was to be rewarded. Would the doctor pay for the advice he sought from the chemist? Would the Ministry pay for the time he spent in keeping his files of literature and his knowledge up to date? Perhaps his counter sales would subsidise that service as they now subsidised the National Health Service.

Why were there so few apprentices in private practice? Was the private pharmacist too busy or too harassed to train one? Was it not worth his while to pay an apprentice who would leave for a better paid post as soon as he became worth his salt? Or was it that the Society, in its endeavour to protect the interests of the apprentice, had made the conditions of pupillage too stringent for compliance by the average pharmacist? No amount of academic training could provide that intangible sixth sense which the pharmacist needed in his daily contacts with customers, and which the apprentice acquired during his periods of duty in the front shop. The pharmacist, in whatever field he operated, must be fully trained in the preparation, presentation, standardisation, preservation and uses of drugs, if he was to handle his wares intelligently. How else could he be distinguished from the technician? How else could he be considered worthy of the increased status which he had sought so long? The Pharmaceutical Chemist Qualifying examination was suited to the needs of retail pharmacy, as pharmacists hoped and expected it would be when those now studying for it had qualified. If pharmacists were to keep at bay the threat of the health centre, they must be prepared to provide a service "standardised at 100 per cent." Pharmacy of the future must be "B.P. or better."

THE CHAIRMAN then threw open the meeting to discussion.

Discussion

MR. CHAMBERLAIN, Portsmouth, said that the speakers had left out one factor—the general public, who for a hundred or more years had been going to the chemist's shops. Pharmacy was not only dispensing. It was tied up with keeping open shop for the sale of drugs and medicines, and with advising the public. He would stress the importance of packing and selling one's own remedies—good things sold at a reasonable price. If dispensing went back to the days when the apothecaries conducted their business from private houses, would that be considered more ethical? The pharmacist must concentrate first on dispensing and then on drugs and medicines, and do away with some of the side lines.

MR. A. J. C. BULL, Portsmouth, said the speakers had painted a grim future, and he was inclined to agree with them. It was as well that pharmacists had been warned. They were in a mad jumble of a business world becoming

divorced from professional conduct. A chemist could stay open regardless of rotas and get all the trade. An all-night pharmacy could and did give an exemplary service to the public. Pharmacists should clear away the cobwebs, restrict new pharmacies, except in new areas, and evolve a system of purchase by partnership. A scheme could possibly be sponsored by the National Pharmaceutical Union. Two pharmacists working in shifts could give service over longer hours (e.g., 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.). Sunday duties could be taken on alternate weeks, and the senior partner could be more responsible for the professional side and the junior one for the dispensing processes, such as preparation of injections, etc. There would be more time to train apprentices, and a greater range of products could be stocked in one pharmacy than by two in competition. Such an arrangement would improve professional status and increase the chance of better remuneration.

MR. R. THURSBY, Salisbury, said a doctor could no longer sell his practice. If pharmacies were professionalised in the way that had been suggested, it might come to the point where the chemist could not sell his N.H.S. practice. Overheads were double those of ten years ago and going up every day but, they in pharmacy had suffered one reduction after another. Their negotiators had not done well. He knew few partnerships that had been entirely successful. The pharmacist should support the Proprietary Articles Trade Association and C.F.

MR. F. S. LEAPER, Southampton, said that it was wrong to say that pharmacists were better off than they had been. They were only making up what they had lost for many years since 1911. The Society was trying to build up professional status, but dispensing was being done in a wholesale manner today—months' supply instead of weeks'. The pharmacist had been made to collect the levy and "in return for all the dirty work," had had five cuts. The people who were directing their destinies were doing the private pharmacist no good. Employers' wages were being whittled down, while employees' wages had to go up.

Unification Need

MR. G. E. TITMAN, Bournemouth, said that the chemist was his own worst enemy C.F. might save the situation, but it required good publicity men to call on all chemists. They could only get higher remuneration by raising their status. There was no unification of pharmacists. Another organisation was needed wherein pharmacists stood together to obtain status and backing in negotiations.

MR. THOMPSON, a Portsmouth student, said that the student came out of college academically minded and with no business interests. If he started out on the type of thing he had been

doing at college, a business interest would develop, but "he must be broken in slowly." A student took an extensive course in galenical making and could put that to good use in a pharmacy.

MR. W. G. TAYLOR, Bournemouth, said it might be true that ten pharmacists' apprentices started in multiples to one in private pharmacy, but after a few years the proportion would be found to be very different.

MR. RIDEHALGH suggested that manufacturers should issue their literature in a standard size.

MR. B. S. ROSE, Bournemouth, pointed out that his company was producing literature of that type.

MR. C. E. GRIFFITHS, Portsmouth, asked whether anything could be done about the type of "ethical" manufacturer who took advantage of the custom of doctors not to prescribe publicly advertised medicines on EC10's — the manufacturer who introduced his products through medical channels in such a package that it was impossible for the chemist to disguise its identity. That was an insidious form of advertising to the general public.

Register of Unqualified Assistants

MR. W. E. BASSIL, Southampton, said he was pleased and happy at the state of pharmacy today. If pharmacists went on saying that present-day dispensing was so easy that the unqualified could do it, eventually a register of unqualified assistants would result, to the detriment of students qualifying today.

MR. LEAPER, Southampton, asked who was to negotiate with the Government on chemists' behalf on the question of health centres? Difficulties were put in their way by the Government whenever they tried to negotiate on anything which might be to their benefit. Complicated forms were sent out on which it was almost impossible for any practical working pharmacists to provide the answers. Figures were asked for when it was known that there would only be a 25 per cent. response.

MR. E. BONNAR, Southampton, said that pharmacists had no one who could talk for them. The Society's Charter did not enable them to do much. Many pharmacists were not members of the N.P.U., which could not speak for the whole of pharmacy. The stumbling-block all along was disunity. The State service was in many businesses a "passenger" carried by the counter trade.

MISS A. BIRKETT, Hove, said that pharmacy suffered from an attitude in its own ranks that it was beyond the pale and sordid to have business ability.

MR. N. BANKS, Portsmouth, said that a health centre, to pay, must be staffed by one or two pharmacists and any number of technicians. That was significant. The Branch Representatives' meeting in May 1954 had repudiated the idea that the Society should have anything to do with unqualified personnel, and the present Conference should reaffirm that motion. Why was the Society going forward with the question of their registration?

MR. J. C. BLOOMFIELD, Portsmouth (a member of the Society's Council) said that the first and only time that any question of unqualified assistants had been discussed by the Council was

at its last meeting, when it came up in a communication from the Society of Apothecaries in connection with their educational policy. A committee of the Council was sitting on the problems of pharmacy today. Whether their findings would contain anything regarding unqualified assistants he did not know. No form of registration of unqualified technicians had ever been discussed by the Council. The Council could only speak for the membership on professional and educational matters; the central N.H.S. (Chemist Contractors) Committee was the body appointed to negotiate with the Government on Health Service matters and he was sorry to see its work so belittled. It was all unpaid work by people working in business themselves. The contractors could change the format of the committee at election time, but the committee was doing its best in the interest of contractors generally. The impression that the Society's conditions were making it impossible for a business to take an apprentice was fallacious. Any pharmacist worth his salt, who had a respectable pharmacy, could satisfy the conditions. The problem was the propaganda put out by the multiples to attract apprentices. It required a panel of speakers from private pharmacies to go to the schools.

C.F. was the salvation of retail pharmacy. Many pharmacists thought C.F.

was theirs already—that they need not worry about C.F. preparations but must fill their windows with the goods stocked by grocers and other competitors. They might find that manufacturers would withdraw from C.F. because of lack of support from the retailer.

The Society's Council was not "out of touch." It was composed mainly of practising retailers who could bring their practical experience to the Council table. The Government's survey forms had had to be involved to be applicable to every one of the varied types of pharmacy that existed.

The speakers were invited to sum up.

MR. FRANCIS said the end of dispensing as it had been known would not mean the end of the retailer's business, but that the business would be different. All the various aspects of pharmacy should be combined under the aegis of the Society, which should be a representative organisation.

MR. SWAN said the trouble with retail pharmacy started in 1911 when the pharmacists did not tell the Government that they would not work under the conditions laid down. If health centres came it would be not as an economical measure, but as the result of a political one.

A vote of thanks to the speakers was proposed by MR. D. DALIS JONES (chairman, Bournemouth Branch).

ORNITHOLOGY IS HIS HOBBY

A West Kirby pharmacist and nature photographer

MR. D. W. R. WILSON, M.P.S., A.R.P.S., West Kirby, Ches., who recently attended the autumn gathering of ornithologists on Hilbre, is the son of a pharmacist, and joined his father in business in 1909. After service during the 1914-18 war he returned to the family business where he was joined by his brother. Both were

After the 1939-45 war he was out bird-watching with Nomad of the B.B.C. (Mr. N. F. Ellison) and Eric Hosking, well-known bird photographer, when he decided to invite some friends to stay with him twice a



ORNITHOLOGISTS' AUTUMN GATHERING ON HILBRE: (Left to right) Field Marshal Viscount Alanbrooke; Nomad of the B.B.C. (Mr. N. F. Ellison, West Kirby); Admiral Sir William Tennant; and Mr. D. W. R. Wilson, M.P.S., A.R.P.S.

members of the Nature Photographic Society for many years. Mr. Wilson joined the Royal Photographic Society and later gained his associateship. His chief hobby is ornithology, but he is also interested in yachting. He is president and a former commodore of the West Kirby Sailing Club, and a former captain of the Royal Mersey Yacht Club.

Mr. Wilson developed his love of nature during his boyhood on the Yorkshire moors, where his father taught him the names of the local birds and flowers. Moving to West Kirby in 1909 he found the Dee estuary a paradise for waders and other sea birds.

year during the spring and autumn migrations and try to get a photographic record of the bird life of the estuary. Since then he has entertained many well-known bird watchers including Field Marshal Viscount Alanbrooke, Drs. Grant and Lewis McAfee, Admiral Sir William Tennant, Eric Hosking, Roger Peterson (American naturalist), J. Wells, R. Pryor and many others. Nomad has been with Mr. Wilson at every gathering and he and Mr. Wilson addressed a party from the British Association in Liverpool. They now have a unique record of bird life in cine and still pictures both in colour and black and white.

FIGURES IN THE PHARMACEUTICAL WORLD

IF the radical changes that have taken place in pharmaceutical education in the past half-century could be regarded as concentrated in one person, he would assuredly be Professor H. Berry.

In his ascent to the dual eminence of Dean of the School of Pharmacy and Professor of Pharmaceutics in the University of London, Professor Berry has occupied a greater variety of teaching posts, under still evolving schemes of pharmaceutical education, than any other person engaged in the teaching of students in pharmacy.

In having begun his career on the staff of one of the former private-enterprise, profit-making schools—in his case the Northern College of Pharmacy, Manchester ("Claytons")—he was not alone. Others, too, have arrived eventually at a university professorship. What makes him a "unique specimen" is his interim period as principal of the department of pharmacy of a technical college (Birmingham, 1919-33).

When Professor Berry began his teaching career in 1912 there was no compulsory curriculum; the lift-up hand balance was still in use at examinations; and in fact pharmaceutical training was still virtually in the era of Jacob Bell. Its principal part was within the shop during a long and sometimes rigorous apprenticeship. The schools, all "commercial" except the one run by the Society itself, provided instruction on the basis of a three-or-four-month "unit." Any student who failed to qualify signed on for another unit—to go over the same ground again! Some repeated the process many times before they finally won through or gave up.

The step forward to technical college departments under local educational authorities came as one outcome of the recommendations of the late Mr. E. Saville Peck after his post 1914-18 war tour of inspection of pharmaceutical training institutions at the behest of the Pharmaceutical Society's Council. Although some of the private-enterprise schools continued to exist (a few until quite recent years) their doom was sealed by the new demands for better premises, better equipment and adequate teaching staffs.

Berry, whose war service had begun in 1914 with the Royal Fusiliers, but who at the time of his demobilisation in 1919 was a Lieutenant in the Royal Garrison Artillery, went into "Civvy Street" to give instruction in pharmacy to ex-Service candidates at the College of Technology, Birmingham. There existed at the college at that date no pharmaceutical "department," properly so called, and it fell to him to build it up. The energy and purpose with which he went about the task commended itself to the attention of those at the Society's headquarters, and his advice on the curriculum and other matters of training came to be more and more sought. When, in 1933, Professor Greenish retired as Dean at "The Square," Berry was brought in, at first as Vice-dean and Reader in Pharmaceutics. Four years later he was promoted



36. PROFESSOR H. BERRY

Dean, and in 1944 his university status as Reader was advanced to that of Professor.

As is well known, the School itself was for a number of years at that time a subject of Council controversy, and its eventual transfer to a "proprietary" and board of governors independent of the Society enabled the Dean to put more fully into effect his own ideas of the proper structure of modern pharmaceutical education. The result is an educational institution differing in many respects from any in the world. To give an obvious example, the students do not, for their studies in chemistry and bacteriology, join for those subjects with students from other faculties, but take *pharmaceutical* chemistry and *pharmaceutical* bacteriology within their own School. Much more than time-table convenience is involved.

In Professor Berry, organising ability and a practical, factual, perhaps unromantic turn of mind are combined

with a belief—firmer with each new proof that he is right—that the "art" of pharmacy conceals a scientific fact, or set of facts, to be discovered. Those must be made the basis of teaching, and not the "art" itself. It is not the duty of a teacher of pharmacy, he argues, to inculcate manipulative skills or to pass on knowledge which, even if it works (and he does not deny that the great pharmacists of the past arrived at "truths" by empirical methods) cannot be scientifically explained. He claims that the successful development of any subject with, like pharmacy, an "art," may be measured by the amount of empiricism which it discards.

In his system of teaching pharmaceutics—again as an example—the subject is divided into three sections: Microbiology; Formulation (including dispensing); and Manufacture. Microbiology is further subdivided into sterilisation, antiseptics and antibiotics. If, in the teaching of bacteriology, resort

had to be had to another faculty, teaching the subject from a totally different point of view, then its purpose would not become realised. Accordingly Berry studied for and secured the Diploma of Bacteriology of London University, and with it the right to teach the subject in his own way. The School's educational system as a whole is a matter for separate consideration. The object here is to demonstrate Berry's clear vision of the place at which he wants to arrive, and how he has patiently taken every step necessary, however slow or difficult, to reach it.

In research, he has specialised mainly on investigating methods of measurement of bactericidal action, and has opened up a field in the formulation of disinfectants. The list of his published papers, many produced in collaboration, shows an insistence that current pharmaceutical practices, however widely accepted, must also be examined for their scientific basis before any further acceptance is given to them. Many of his titles deal with "everyday" sub-

jects: "Rubber Caps for Vaccine Bottles"; "The Disintegration Rate of Tablets"; "The Relative Methods of Maceration and Percolation for the Preparation of Tincture of Digitalis"; "An Investigation into the Action of Fungicides." That serves only to show how little real scientific research had previously been done upon them. In any march forward, the objects near at hand must be secured before proceeding to more distant and more complex objectives, and the end of the road to be eventually explored by the method is not within sight at present.

The abilities of Professor Berry have naturally been called into other service in other fields of pharmacy. In 1921, with Mr. H. B. Mackie, he became an examiner in the Pharmaceutical Society—first "gate-crash" into a previous monopoly enjoyed by the staff of the Pharmaceutical Society's School. He is also an examiner in the Universities of London, Glasgow, Manchester and Wales. Of the present members of the British Pharmacopœia Com-

mission he and Professor Linnell have the longest tenure of office. Professor Berry is a member also of the Codex Revision Committee; of the Standing Pharmaceutical Advisory Committee of the Central Health Services Council; of the Ministry of Health's joint subcommittee on the definition of drugs; and of the committee of management of London University Institute of Education. In 1951 he was the chairman of the British Pharmaceutical Conference.

The School is in process of installing itself in its new permanent home in Brunswick Square, and many of the ideas and trains of thought Professor Berry has originated or prompted are being concretely expressed for the first time in layout, equipment and timetable. The full fruition of those ideas may, like other educational advances, not come to be seen for a generation. But it is certain that, for very many years to come, the influence of Professor Berry on pharmaceutical education in Britain will continue to be strongly discernible.

USE OF ANIMALS IN RESEARCH

Sir Henry Dale's Paget Memorial lecture

A VIGOROUS defence of the use of animals in medical research was made by Sir Henry Dale when he delivered the annual lecture in commemoration of Stephen Paget (founder of the Research Defence Society) in London on November 16.

Knowledge Due to Animal Experiment

Medical knowledge, said SIR HENRY, owed essential features of its permanent structure to experiments involving the use of animals. One could feel some respect for the sincere effort to be logical, which was made by those whose imaginative sympathies led them to reject medical service altogether, and to exclude all animal products from their food and their clothing. But what could one think of those who, without any pretension to so fanatical a consistency, were nevertheless active in the attempt to persuade or to frighten the ignorant into refusing, for themselves or their children, the means of protection against dangers to which those who conducted that cruel and cowardly campaign of misrepresentation and obstruction were themselves not likely to be exposed? It was not till 1940 that the Ministry of Health had found it practicable to inaugurate full-scale preventive inoculation of all children against diphtheria. Immediately, however, the enemies of medical research had launched a counter-campaign to induce timid mothers to refuse the protection for their children. Their effort was less successful than might have been feared. In 1940 there were still in England more than 45,000 cases of diphtheria, and more than 2,400 of those were fatal. Then, with the inoculation becoming effective, the numbers fell steeply and steadily, until in the last full year, 1954, there were only 173 cases, and only nine deaths from the disease.

The value of preventive inoculation against tetanus was a more recent dis-

covery and one to the development of which British work made an outstanding contribution. Fortunately the arrangements had been made in advance for the active immunisation of the armies of the 1939-45 war. But again there was an organised effort to persuade the soldiers to avail themselves of a legal right to refuse that protection; those who conducted the campaign disapproved, presumably, of the methods by which the preventive treatment had been discovered, or those by which the efficacy and safety of the inoculum were being controlled. Yet in the more than 16,000 who were wounded in the British Expeditionary Force in 1940, there were only seven cases of tetanus; and those were all in the men of the 10 per cent. who had been persuaded to refuse inoculation.

It was impossible, said Sir Henry, to move anywhere in modern medicine without the use of knowledge produced by experimental researches, in a large proportion of which it had been necessary to make some use of experiments on living animals.

Experiments on animals in the search for new and better remedies for malaria had produced a position in which an adequate organisation of the world's resources, using the effective antimalarial remedies which were now ready to hand, together with the potent insecticides which were also now available, ought to be able to rid the world of malaria.

It was important that everybody should understand that Fleming's discovery of penicillin, so rightly recognised and acclaimed, might have remained indefinitely without the practical applications which had meant so much to mankind, if Florey and his team had not made a new and thorough investigation of the properties of penicillin with the help of an adequate series of experiments on living animals.

Sir Henry referred to the "ludi-

crous contrast," that, while the active alkaloid of curare was now widely recognised and used as a valuable accessory to anaesthesia in practical surgery, Man was the only animal to which it could legally be thus administered without the presence of a Home Office inspector, even for experiments of the kind which have made that practical application possible. And the same restriction must logically apply to experimental advances, which had nevertheless been made, even in Britain, leading to the discovery of valuable synthetic substitutes for tubocurarine. And experimental researches, in neighbouring and other fields of physiology and pharmacology, were enabling surgical operations to be conducted without any significant loss of blood, and were conferring upon surgery a more general and steadily increasing freedom and range of action, extending to operations inside the chest and even inside the heart. And yet the essentially humane researches, which were furnishing the knowledge on which all those beneficent advances were based, were still exposed to a cruel campaign of denunciation and obstruction, the best that could be said for which was that, hitherto, it had been so largely ineffective.

N.H.S. STATISTICS

In ENGLAND during June, 16,362,860 prescriptions (9,502,954 forms) were dispensed at a total cost of £3,615,283. Average cost per prescription was 53·03d.

In LINCOLNSHIRE (HOLLAND) during 1954-55, 339,550 prescriptions were dispensed at a total cost of £62,033. Average cost per prescription was 44d.

In NORTHERN IRELAND during May 592,648 prescriptions (363,605 forms) were dispensed at a total cost of £158,774. Average cost per prescription was 64·3d.

PROSPECTS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Ulster Chemists' Association presidential address

A NUMBER of newly-qualified pharmacists now realised that prospects in Northern Ireland were not great, and conditions in the Colonies were much better for the assistant pharmacist, said Mr. W. H. BOYD, in his presidential address to the annual meeting of the Ulster Chemists' Association held in Belfast on November 23. Unfortunately, said Mr. Boyd, the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland and the U.C.A. had not been able to do anything about the limitation of pharmacies. A suggestion had been made that it was the ease with which credit could be obtained that encouraged those openings, but such was not the case. The Association had meetings with the wholesalers who had been very helpful. The Association could not lay down any hard and fast rules. It was the right of every pharmacist to open a business where he desired, but unfortunately there were businesses opening up in congested areas, and for the good of the persons themselves, the Association could show the dangers.

There had been a number of complaints from new openers, that they were not able to obtain certain agency goods, such as photographic materials and cosmetics. That was a matter for the manufacturers concerned. Every new pharmacy became a member of the Association and they could not discriminate between members.

Purchase-tax Increases

Regarding increases in purchase tax, quite a number of members had been dissatisfied with the Executive Committee. Some felt that a general directive should have been issued, but that was illegal, and despite the fact that the chemist was supposed to sell the stock at the price he had paid for it, nevertheless when tax came down it was impossible for him to recoup himself for the stock he had bought at the higher price. Previously, when there was a purchase tax revision, the Association had put out a general guide as to what the tax would be, but manufacturers had altered their prices, and

so it meant that two sets of price changes had been issued, which was confusing. This time they had decided to issue manufacturers' altered prices only, and quite a number had increased the cost as well as purchase tax. That meant an increase in capital investment at a time when most pharmacists could not afford it. In December they would be faced with another capital increase, because cortisone was being released. It was coming to the stage where pharmacy was the heaviest-stocked trade or body in proportion to turnover. For pharmacists who had to depend on borrowed capital, that was becoming extremely serious. From day to day manufacturers were bringing out new products which were finding their way on to the chemists' shelves. The question of dead stock was arising and the committee had been considering whether they could arrange a "swopping system." The trouble was that when one product went off with one chemist it usually went off with all. Unless there was a central depot to carry redundant stocks it was not commendable. It was not the quantity of individual items, but broken bulk which was hard to dispose of. In one area in England a scheme had been running fairly successfully, but in another larger area it was an absolute failure.

In Canada 80 per cent. of all prescriptions were for proprietary medicines, far from being bankrupt, chemists had enjoyed a year of prosperity. Would that apply to Northern Ireland? One of the main troubles with that type of dispensing was that the overheads were increasing rapidly and yet the percentage profit was not going up. 25 per cent. oncost would show quite a profit, but redundant stocks would reduce that figure. Increased overheads were due to increases in wages, rates and revaluation of premises.

The Chemists Federation was losing a lot of general lines. In the 1954-55 year there had been a rise in the sale of dentifrices due to advertising, and of that, 15 per cent. went to grocers and 2 per cent. to chemists. Those were things that required thinking over.

The annual report of the Executive Committee was adopted on the motion of Mr. W. J. CRAWFORD, seconded by Mr. M. W. HENDERSON, and the financial statement, presented by Mr. W. J. Rankin (treasurer), on the motion of Mr. J. MCGREGOR, seconded by Mr. J. A. MCROBERTS, who as auditor, spoke appreciatively of the excellent way in which Mr. Rankin kept the accounts.

The results of the election of members to committee were announced as follows:—

Miss C. B. Abernethy (177 votes); Messrs. J. C. Acheson (195); H. S. Anderson (192); W. H. Boyd (196); J. Caldwell (197); W. S. Hall (190); M. C. Mooney (172); C. A. Quinn (187); L. A. McCullagh (69).

The total number of voting papers received was 260 and the number of votes disqualified, twenty-five.

THE PRESIDENT formally declared the first eight of the foregoing members re-elected. He thanked the scrutineers for their assistance, and Mr. J. Caldwell, on behalf of the re-elected members of Committee expressed thanks to those who had shown confidence in them by returning them for another period of service.

On the motion of Mr. H. R. KELLY, seconded by Mr. W. J. CRAWFORD, a vote of thanks, proposed to Mr. W. H. BOYD for his services during the year, and his conduct of the meeting, was passed with acclamation, and, on the motion of Mr. M. W. HENDERSON, seconded by Mr. J. D. MORRISON, a vote of thanks was passed to the treasurer, auditors, committee and office staff.

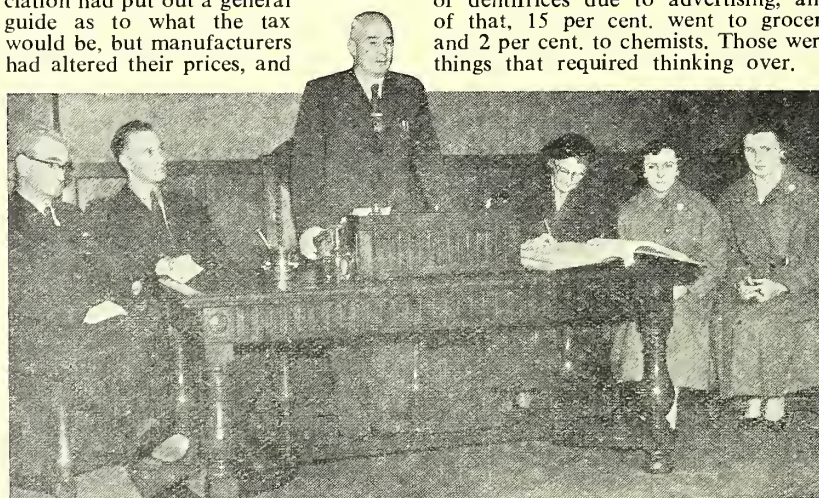
MESSRS. W. H. BOYD and W. J. RANKIN suitably replied.

IRISH NEWS

Associates' Section

MONTHLY COMMITTEE MEETING

AT the November meeting of the committee of the Associates' Section of the Ulster Chemists' Association, Mr. J. E. Morley was elected *Chairman* for 1955-56. Other appointments were as follows:— *Vice-chairman*, Mrs. C. O'Rourke; *Secretary*, Mr. T. Hunter; *Treasurer*, Mr. W. E. Cooper; *Assistant Treasurer*, Mr. J. White; *Auditor*, Miss M. Meneely; *Representative on Northern Ireland Chemists' Benevolent Fund Committee*, Mr. J. Kerr; *Joint Council Members*, Messrs. J. E. Morley, E. G. Mackle, J. Kerr and Mrs. C. O'Rourke. It was agreed that a member of the representatives' group committee should be invited to act on the Associates' committee. Various accounts were passed for payment, and it was agreed that the sum of £25 should be donated to the Northern Ireland Chemists' Benevolent Fund. The SECRETARY reported that the Executive Committee of the Ulster Chemists' Association had agreed to accept the £25 increase in levy payable to them, making the Associates' levy now £100 instead of £75.



ULSTER CHEMISTS' ANNUAL MEETING: Mr. W. H. Boyd (president, Ulster Chemists' Association) addresses the annual meeting of members of the Association at Belfast recently. Left to right, Messrs. W. J. Rankin (treasurer) and W. S. Hall (vice-president); Miss A. L. Strachan (secretary).

NORTHERN IRELAND PHARMACY BILL DEBATE

Government speaker outlines proposals at Stormont

MOVING the second reading of the Pharmacy and Poisons Bill (Northern Ireland) in the Ulster House of Commons on November 23, CAPTAIN TERENCE O'NEILL (Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Home Affairs) said that the Bill had been prepared after consultation with the parties affected, particularly with the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland, and agreement had been reached on the broad issues.

One of the main provisions was to establish a Poisons Board, whose function would be to advise the Minister on the various substances that should be treated as poisons and on the form of regulations which should control them. Advances in medical and industrial research, he said, had in recent years resulted in many substances of a highly complex nature being produced and placed on the market and the value of an expert Board in those circumstances was evident. A similar Board had been advising the Home Secretary in Great Britain.

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland and the Medical Faculty of Queen's University, Belfast, had discharged their statutory duty of advising in those matters admirably, but with scientific advances almost daily it had become an increasing burden to them. Further, many of the substances now being marketed were of primary importance to industry and agriculture.

Provisions in the Bill

Captain O'Neill said that other provisions in the Bill defined the objects and powers of the Pharmaceutical Society. Those new provisions had the approval of the Society and should enable its members to conduct their business free from doubt as to the legality of their actions. The Society was not established by Charter and the Acts of 1928 and 1945 were vague as to its objects and powers; the object of that Clause in the Bill was to fill the gap which existed in the previous measures. An analogous provision was in Clause 8 which extended the powers of the Council of the Society. Its powers had also not been adequately defined in earlier Acts, and there again the Society was in agreement with the proposals. Those two clauses, taken together, should enable the Society and its Council to function satisfactorily.

Drawing attention to Clause 10, Captain O'Neill said that that enabled the Council to make special provision for the examination of ex-servicemen and women candidates for the profession. The regulations for so doing must be approved by the Minister of Home Affairs after consultation with the Minister of Education. Care would be taken that the standard of the examination would not be lowered but that possibly the method of sitting for the examination might be modified for such candidates. There were no cases of hardship known to the Council but

it was felt that a provision of that kind should be placed on the Statute Book to cover future contingencies.

Concluding, Captain O'Neill said that the other provisions such as the outlining of the procedure for the issue by local authorities to persons other than chemists of poison licences; the alteration of the constitution of the Council; and the changes in the apprenticeship requirements did not call for detailed explanation but they had been introduced at the request and with the approval of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland.

MR. CAHIR HEALY said that when the 1945 Bill was passing through the House it seemed that the Government was unwilling to accept any amendments from the Opposition, and yet now the Government was recommending amendments. The Bill, he said, was apparently introduced to give a greater degree of security to the general public. It altered the training of apprentices, substituting two years behind the counter for four years. One would have thought, he said, that practical experience was of more value to the public and the prospective chemist than theoretical knowledge or school training. Would that altered course of study give greater security to the public? If that was the desire of the Pharmaceutical Society they had apparently gone about the matter in a very curious way, because they had asked to modify the course of study. Was it the Society or the Government who had made that suggestion?

Referring to the provisions for ex-servicemen, Mr. Healy said that if it took a certain time to produce a cap-

able chemist, why should there be "a back door" for one class? They heard from time to time of accidents where people had taken medicines by mistake. The Bill showed no attempt to make such accidents less likely. Bottles could be made a certain shape so that they would be readily recognisable in the dark.

Mr. Healy said that he noticed that the Society had succeeded in giving themselves more drastic powers over their members than they had before. He could not understand why there should be an increase from twelve to eighteen in the membership of the Council. Twelve members ought to be sufficient to guide the destinies of the Pharmaceutical Society. The Government and Cabinet had not eighteen members. The smaller the number the more efficient the body would be and the easier it was to get things done.

DR. R. S. NIXON described the Bill as a good one. He said that it was a waste of time for a young man to spend more than two years behind the counter.

Replying to the debate, CAPTAIN O'NEILL said that as regards the duration of apprenticeship he understood the alteration was asked for by the Pharmaceutical Society. Although on paper four years seemed better than two, in practice the other two years was considered to be largely wasted.

The reason for the increase in membership of the Council was that in the past at times there had been difficulty in getting a quorum.

The Bill was formally given a second reading.

STUDENT PRIZE-WINNERS

Pharmacy awards at Portsmouth

PRIZES awarded to students in the Pharmacy and Physiology Department, Portsmouth College of Technology, were presented at a ceremony held in the College examination hall recently. DR. WILLIAM TAYLOR (principal of the College) spoke of the urgent need for increased accommodation for the work of the Department. That need was about to be filled, since work on a new laboratory for pharmaceutical chemistry was being started in 1956. Other changes would follow which would enable a more ambitious programme of research to be undertaken. Some members of the staff were already engaged in research work of a high standard; others were ready to begin their practical work as soon as accommodation became available.

MR. E. THORPE (head of the Department), presenting his annual report, said the intake of students that session was considerably higher than during the previous one and the Department was now full to capacity. A member of the staff, Mr. W. W. Binns, had been appointed to serve on the Board of Examiners of the Pharmaceutical Society, and Mr. D. P. Mulholland, a successful student at the Society's phar-

maceutical chemist qualifying examination in July (and the son of a former student) had been awarded the Society's bronze medal.

MR. J. C. BLOOMFIELD (a member of the Society's Council and chairman of the Portsmouth Branch of the Society), presenting the prizes, congratulated Mr. Binns on his appointment to the Board of Examiners, and also congratulated Mr. Mulholland, stating that the bronze medal was the only award made by the Society during 1955.

MR. G. COLLMAN, on behalf of the students, proposed a vote of thanks to the donors of the prizes.

The prize-winners were:—*All subjects, first year*, BOOTS' PRIZE, Pamela Thompson; *second year*, TIMOTHY WHITES & TAYLORS PRIZE, D. P. Mulholland; *pharmaceutics*, EVANS PRIZE, Mary Thomas; *physiology and pharmacology*, BLOOMFIELD PRIZE, Pamela Thompson; *pharmacognosy*, PORTSMOUTH CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION PRIZE, J. B. Williams; *pharmaceutical chemistry*, FERRYMAN PRIZE, J. B. Williams; *practical pharmaceutics*, PORTSMOUTH BRANCH, CHAIRMAN'S PRIZE, Mary Thomas; *practical notebooks*, THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST PRIZE, R. L. Burton.

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Some Peculiarities of Public Accounting

ONE thing that emerges from the report of the Committee of Public Accounts (p. 625) is that, at some stage in the period under review, the Ministry of Health gave an explanation why it had not enforced a reduction in the allowance for uncollected levies. The explanation was that the remuneration of chemists as a whole, of which that item formed a part, was under consideration.

Since that time, as all contractors know, the Ministry has yielded to pressure and anticipated the report by cutting the allowance from 0.25d. to 0.075d. per EC10 form. Thus we find that, not only has the Ministry, in its cutting of the levy allowance, flouted the wishes of the Central N.H.S. (Chemist Contractors) Committee, but it has also disregarded its own conscience in the matter. It is high time the Ministry adopted a more worthy attitude towards its contractors and stood by them and up to the Treasury.

The committee goes on to state that it "cannot view with equanimity the payment of prices [for proprietary preparations and basic drugs] which . . . include a profit margin substantially in excess of that hitherto accepted as appropriate for Government contracts." The committee has grace to admit, however, that drugs provided under the National Health Service are supplied by retail chemists from stocks and not purchased direct from the Government. One would imagine that that would be sufficient reason for a higher rate of profit than is normal under Government contracts but it is not one that the committee accepts. Instead it looks upon that peculiar circumstance as no more than a difficulty in the way of arranging "special and satisfactory prices." And if that difficulty cannot be circumvented the committee's solution to the problem is a levy on manufacturers' profits (or rather on those manufacturers whose prices have been shown by costing to be excessive). That levy is euphemistically called a "rebate" by the committee. The rebate would be calculated to reduce the prices paid to a "fair and reasonable" level. The committee does not venture to define what it means by the phrase "fair and reasonable."

Fallacious Economics

UNDER the heading "Cascade of Medicine," the *News Chronicle* of November 28 attacks the Minister of Health for "choosing this minute" to make cortisone available "on an ordinary doctor's prescription." How

many family doctors, the newspaper asks, will be able to resist public pressure to use this costly drug which now becomes available "price 1s. 0d. for a whole course of treatment?" In a final burst of anger it proclaims as "nothing less than scandalous" the Minister's burdening the already swollen drug bill with yet another cascade of medicine at a time "when the hospitals are desperately short of money, when nurses and junior hospital medical staff are grossly underpaid."

Now there may be good medical grounds for continuing to channel cortisone to hospitals. It is probably true that the majority of medical practitioners may not have the time, apparatus or facilities necessary for assessing the correct dosage. It is true, too, that the dosage is critical, too little being as potentially dangerous as too much.

But arguments based on cost seem to us entirely fallacious and as confusing as they are confused. Hospitals "desperately short of money" would find their financial burden no heavier but perhaps eased by being no longer the sole channels for administration of cortisone, and either way the effect on staff pay would be so indirect and untraceable that it may be disregarded. To the Minister it cannot matter, from a cost standpoint, whether consumption of a drug is through the hospital service or through the general practitioner service: the price demanded by the manufacturer is about the same either way. There remains only the newspaper's assumption that release of the drug is going to let loose a "cortisone cascade." But if, as the argument goes, the dose is so critical that departure from it converts the drug into a killer, the general practitioner will soon tire—even if he ever embarks on the process—of dispatching his patients to the undertaker. At the start of the National Health Service it was made clear that no considerations of cost should stand in the way of correct treatment for the patient. Where alternative drugs achieving the same purpose are available the machinery exists by which the Minister can avoid paying out public money unnecessarily. For the rest, it is surely now accepted by all except the *News Chronicle* that the welfare of the patient must be the sole criterion of whether and through what channels a drug shall be available.

Onward from Galen

A CURRENT CAUSERIE

A CUTTING from a recent issue of the *Surrey Comet* has been sent in by Mr. A. L. Higgs, Thames Ditton. It is headed "100 years ago" and quotes an advertisement for "Photographic portraits taken on glass, from 2s. 6d., by G. F. Ashby, Practical Chemist, and etc., Victoria Road, Surbiton." . . . "These portraits are decidedly superior to Daguerrotype from the fact that they can be viewed in any light and from their non-liability to fade." An editorial comment at the time noted that "Mr. Ashby, who has already had the good fortune, during his sojourn in this neighbourhood, to enjoy a considerable amount of patronage, is most successful in bringing out the features with an unquestionable accuracy, which is aided greatly by his being a complete master in the science of chemistry." Mr. Higgs has made some effort to find out more about the "practical chemist" Mr. Ashby, but without success. Maybe some of Mr. Ashby's portraits, in view of their "non-liability to fade," have survived. It would—if not of any practical value—be interesting to have them brought to light again.

A MODERN COURSE OF PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIES

THE P.D.A. EXAMINATION Intermediate Grade

By A. FINNIS ATTWELL

(Examiner in the oral and salesmanship section)

THIS article, and another to follow, are devoted mainly to the "Oral and Salesmanship" section of the Intermediate examination of the Photographic Dealers' Association, with particular emphasis on the important subject of salesmanship. But first, a few words of general information regarding the Intermediate Examination as a whole, followed by a brief reference to the Practical section.

General Information

The syllabus of the P.D.A. examinations, and a special booklet compiled to assist the student, are available free from the General Secretary, P.D.A. House, 46 Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1. Many students using the recommended text-books study independently. It is wiser, however, to take a course of lectures, including tuition in practical work. The Association has arranged a special course of sixteen evening lectures (at a fee of about 30s.) with a number of colleges of technology in large towns.

A correspondence course of twelve lessons, which includes test questions followed by corrections and model answers, at a fee of £4 4s., has been arranged with Pitman College of Technology, Pitman House, Godalming, Surrey. Inquiries regarding the course should be sent to that address.

Candidates entering the P.D.A. Intermediate examination must pay a fee of £2 2s. They are required to pass all three parts of the examination: (1) the written paper; (2) practical work; (3) oral and salesmanship. The P.D.A. diploma is presented to successful candidates.

The examination is held on one day, usually in April, in London and Manchester, and also in Glasgow and Dublin, if numbers justify.

All students are familiar with written examinations. It is not intended to comment here on this particular one, otherwise than to say that everything in the syllabus under its heading is dealt with fully in text-books.

Practical Work

The practical part of the examination is carried out at home. The candidate must submit negatives, contact prints and an enlargement, according to instructions clearly stated. He must sign a statement saying that all are his own unaided work. The directions are simple and clear. It is regrettable that a number of candidates are stupid enough almost to ignore them. One wonders how they treat their customers' orders.

Students should commence practical work early on in their preparation for the examination, and not be satisfied with the work they have to submit until it is clean and technically excellent.

"Oral and Salesmanship"

We are, all of us, retail customers. We know from experience that the standard of salesmanship in almost every branch of retail trade is deplorably low. It is that fact which has led the P.D.A. to incorporate this neglected subject in its examination syllabus. The candidate, having taken the written and practical sections, is faced with the oral and salesmanship. Admittedly his task is a difficult one. He is often shy and scared of the examiner. The writer hopes to make the experience less difficult for each of his readers, to explain what is expected of the candidate, and to consider at some length that complex and difficult subject of salesmanship.

The syllabus makes it clear that the candidate is expected to be able to explain the use, function and underlying principles of all equipment and accessories named therein. He is required also to demonstrate such equipment—to "sell" it. "The examiner may assume the rôle of an inquiring customer." That, in fact, he does. It is usual for the examiner to say "I want you to regard this as your shop, these goods as your stock, yourself as the salesman and me as your customer," or similar words.

A selection of cameras, enlargers, accessories, sensitised materials and chemicals are on the bench before the candidate. The written paper will have tested his theoretical knowledge of the goods. In the oral his knowledge will be further tested by the kinds of question asked over the counter by the amateur photographer.

Explanation, advice, recommendation, demonstration, answers to the "How?" and the "Why?" . . . all should be given concisely and in a pleasant and lively tone of voice that suggests willingness and enthusiasm.

Salesmanship Neglected

A great deal of time and study is devoted by the candidates to preparing themselves for the written paper. In the experience of the writer, and of other examiners in oral and salesmanship, candidates present themselves with no apparent signs of thought or preparation devoted to salesmanship. Nothing is of greater importance in business. Salesmanship, and the demonstration of photographic equipment which comprises part of it, must be taken seriously.

As commonly practised in retail trades of all kinds, salesmanship is feeble—lacking vitality and efficiency. That is possibly because it is so subtle and complex an art that even the word itself is indefinable. There are few books on the subject, and those are not easy to come by and do not deal with the selling of photographic goods. It is because of those difficulties that the subject demands thoughtful study and the personal application of an alert mind.

Think, Candidates!

The first thing is to give the subject thought. Think, candidates! Try to get down to the fundamentals. You can spot the good salesman and the bad when you buy a cycle, a motor bike, a pair of shoes or a fountain pen. What did you like or dislike in the sale to you of this or that? How should a man go about selling you a motor bike? Think and write the answer down from start to finish. Then do the same with the selling of a camera—no matter how many you have sold before—write the whole story, as if you were teaching salesmanship to someone else.

The next thing is to practise. Take one or two cameras out of the glass case and have a go with a fellow assistant. Discuss the right and wrong methods of demonstration and sale—criticise each other. Write down your findings. In the shop where you work, members of the staff are making

sales all day. Watch, listen, think, and analyse whenever you have the opportunity.

All this is said here to emphasise, as emphatically as one can, how essential it is to bring all the intelligence one possesses to this fascinating subject. It requires as much study and application of the mind as the theory and practice of photography. If candidates will only take this as

gospel, examiners in oral and salesmanship are not people who need to be feared by those who are being examined.

The next article will take the candidate to the examination bench to see what questions he is asked, and how he shapes in demonstrating apparatus and as a salesman generally.

What the chemist should know about some common ANIMAL DISEASES

4. MILK FEVER IN DAIRY COWS

MILK fever, which is known also as parturient fever and by a variety of other names, is a common disease of dairy cattle. Associated with a steep fall in the calcium content of the blood, it is characterised not by fever, as the name would imply, but by a state of collapse and coma, usually resulting in death if untreated. In the past the mortality rate was as high as 90 per cent. of affected animals, but since the introduction of parenteral calcium therapy, losses have been reduced to a very low figure. Today, this modern treatment with calcium by injection is a factor of considerable economic importance to the dairy farmer, in that it represents the difference between a healthy cow giving several gallons of milk a day, and the rapid, unexpected death of a valuable animal.

Occurrence

The disease is unknown amongst wild animals, and its incidence in livestock seems to parallel the progressive development of the dairy cow for high milk production. It occurs most commonly in heavy milking cows from five to nine years old, more often those in good condition, well fed and getting only a minimum of exercise. Some cows seem particularly susceptible to milk fever and develop the trouble at successive calvings. The majority of cases occur within forty-eight hours of calving.

Causes

The most generally accepted cause of milk fever is an acute temporary deficiency of calcium, and possibly other elements, in the blood. When a cow gives birth to a calf and the udder starts producing milk, a considerable amount of calcium has to be drawn from the blood to constitute the colostrum, and that calcium in turn is derived from the reserves in the bones. In milk fever, because of some defect in the calcium-regulating mechanism, there is inability to mobilise the calcium reserves of the body for, whereas the normal blood calcium in cows is about 10 mgm. per 100 c.c., that figure may, in a case of milk fever, be as low as 3.5 mgm. per 100 c.c. When the content of calcium falls to that low level the brain ceases to function, the animal becomes paralysed and unconscious. The disease, however, is not a true mineral deficiency, since the administration of calcium by mouth, unlike parenteral treatment, does not improve the condition and has no effect on the level of blood calcium.

Symptoms

An affected animal first shows symptoms of nervousness and excitement, and staggers if she moves. Within an hour or so she collapses and remains on the ground, unable to rise. A characteristic position is often assumed, the head being bent around to the chest, and the muzzle towards the udder. There may be some snoring and moaning, but the animal gradually lapses into coma, ending in death.

Treatment

Treatment is invariably urgent, and when a cow is found lying down in an advanced stage of the disease she should

be immediately propped up on her sternum with bales of straw. No medicines should be given by mouth as the animal is quite unable to swallow.

Two distinct methods of treatment are employed: the older method of inflating the udder with air is still used, especially in emergencies, but it has been largely replaced by the safer and more convenient injection of calcium borogluconate solution.

Udder Inflation

The effectiveness of udder inflation in relieving the symptoms of milk fever is probably due to the sudden arrest of the milk flow, which results in retention of calcium in the body. The equipment required consists of a teat syphon, a pump, and a filter chamber containing sterile cotton wool. The teat syphon must be boiled immediately before use, and handled aseptically when inserted into the teat canal. Similarly the teats and udder must be carefully swabbed with methylated spirit beforehand. Each quarter is inflated until firm by pumping in filtered air, the teats being gently tied with gauze tapes. The gauze is removed in three or four hours, during which time recovery may be expected. It should be known that, unless strict cleanliness is observed during the whole process, there is great danger of introducing infection and causing mastitis.

Parenteral Calcium

The injection of calcium salt has the advantage that it eliminates handling the udder and the use of teat syphons, and so avoids the risk of infecting the udder. The most suitable calcium salt is the borogluconate, which is more soluble than the gluconate, less irritant, and also more stable. Solutions commonly employed contain 10 or 20 per cent. of calcium borogluconate. The salt is available as a powder, or the solution may be prepared from calcium gluconate and boric acid, according to the following formula:—

Calcium gluconate	3 oz. 140 gr.
Boric acid ...	gr. 298
Sodium bicarbonate	gr. 346
Water to	1 pint

The calcium gluconate and boric acid are dissolved in boiling water and sodium bicarbonate added gradually when the solution is cool. The solution is then boiled again and made up to final volume with sterile water.

Dose: 10-30 fl. oz.

Injections are warmed to body heat before administration. The dose is injected subcutaneously at several points in the neck; alternatively, half the liquid may be given intravenously and half subcutaneously.

Prophylaxis

When it is known that a cow is susceptible to milk fever, attacks may be prevented by the timely administration of calcium borogluconate given daily in suitable doses for a few days after calving.

Second volume of the INTERNATIONAL PHARMACOPŒIA

By T. D. WHITTET, B.Sc., F.P.S., F.R.I.C., D.B.A.

(Chief pharmacist and lecturer in pharmacy, University College Hospital)

PUBLICATION of the second volume of the first edition of the International Pharmacopœia marks another important step towards world co-operation in the field of drug standardisation.

Name Variants

Several of the drugs now added to the pharmacopœia are already familiar to British pharmacists, as they are included in the British Pharmacopœia or in the British Pharmaceutical Codex. Some of them, however, are under International names different from the British names, a fact that may lead to a reconsideration of some of the British names in the interests of international agreement. Apart from minor variations in the latinised titles, there are some outstanding examples of totally different names being applied to the same drug. Thus the insecticide popularly known as DDT, is called in the I.P., chlorophenothane, against dicophane of the B.P. The international name for the local anæsthetic amethocaine is tetracaine, which agrees with the U.S.P. XV but not with the B.P. And our familiar sodium metabisulphite becomes sodium pyrosulphite. American nomenclature is also adopted in chlortetracycline (aureomycin, B.P.) and levarterenol (noradrenaline, B.P.C.) whereas the British isoprenaline is preferred to the American isoproterenol. Sodium aminosalicylate and its corresponding acid base have the prefix *para* in front of their international name. Three other B.P.C. drugs are included under different names: digitoxin (digitoxoside); benzhexol (trihexyphenyldyl—the B.P.C. synonym); and undecenoic acid (undecylenic acid). The last name is, however, probably better known in this country than the Codex title. The latinised name for caffeine in the International Pharmacopœia (caffeinum) seems peculiar, especially as the familiar English spelling is used in the text. Tincture of *nux vomica* also seems strange as *tinctura strychni*.

Perhaps the most interesting additions, from the British point of view, are those not included in either the B.P. or the B.P.C. Outstanding are four morphine derivatives. Hydromorphone, known here as dihydromorphinone or by the trade name of Dilaudid, was included in the 1949 Codex but omitted from the 1954 edition. It is more active, but also more toxic, than morphine, over which it has no real advantages. The methyl derivative of the drug, which is included as metopon, has been in use for some years in America, where it is claimed to be the drug of choice for prolonged use in severe pain; it is said to cause less respiratory depression and fewer side-effects than morphine.

Hydrocodone, known in Britain as dihydrocodeinone or Dicodid, has an action midway between those of morphine and codeine, and a specific action on the cough centre. It is, however, more toxic than morphine and has never become popular here. Oxycodone, known as dihydrohydroxycodone or Eukodal, has analgesic and hypnotic properties similar to those of morphine, with a weaker effect on the movements of the alimentary tract. It is a profound respiratory depressant and is seldom used in Great Britain.

Two other drugs added to the I.P. are not often used in British medicine today. Acetylcholine is ineffective by mouth, dangerous by intravenous injection and fleeting in action when given by subcutaneous or intramuscular injection. It has been replaced in this country by its synthetic

derivatives carbachol and methacholine. Aminoacetic acid or glycine has been used in the treatment of myasthenia gravis, but is not regarded as of sufficient importance to include in the B.P. or B.P.C. Choline itself, however, which is included in the form of its chloride, is now being used in this country as the chloride or dihydrogen citrate for the prevention and cure of certain forms of liver damage.

Conessine hydrobromide is the active alkaloid of *holarrhena* bark, which was included in the 1949 Codex but omitted from that of 1954. It is used in some countries for the treatment of amœbic dysentery. A newly added arsenical drug is dichlorophenarsine, which is practically unknown in this country. Two phenylmercuric salts are added. One of them, the borate, is not used in Britain at present, but its solubility is 1 in 25, against 1 in 600 for the acetate (also included), and 1 in 1,500 for the nitrate, which is the only phenylmercuric salt official in the B.P.

A wide range of well-known antihistamine drugs is included: antazoline (Antistin or Histostab); diphenhydramine (Benadryl); mepyramine (Anthisan); and promethazine (Phenergan). Another, tripeleminamine, known here as Pyribenzamine, has not yet gained official British recognition and is not much used in this country. Profenamine, a diethyl homologue of promethazine, is practically unknown here.

The monograph on cyclopropane, a gaseous anæsthetic, directs that a warning about dangers of explosion should appear on the label. The monograph on the volatile anæsthetic trichlorethylene allows the presence of 0.02 per cent. of ammonium carbonate as an alternative preservative to thymol but, unlike the recent B.P. Addendum, does not recognise the addition of blue colouring matter. Other important additions include the antibiotics sodium and potassium benzyl penicillin, chloramphenicol, oxytetracycline, streptomycin and dihydrostreptomycin; the hormone cortisone and hormone derivative ethinylestradiol; the hæmopoietic vitamins folic acid and cyanocobalamine; the antithyroid drug propylthiouracil; and the muscle relaxant gallamine triethiodide (Flaxedil).

Among the monographs on preparations it is surprising to see tincture of aconite introduced when it is regarded as obsolete in this country. The monographs on tablets, which have the latin title of *compressi* instead of the familiar *tabellæ*, do not give methods of manufacture, thus resembling the U.S.P. rather than the B.P. monographs.

An Unusual Feature

A useful general introduction precedes the monographs on injections. An unusual feature of it is the permission to use isotonic sodium chloride, Ringer's solution or other suitable solution in place of water for injection. Standards are laid down for the quality of fixed oil and mineral oils used for oily injections. Containers are required to be clear and colourless or of pale amber material, which permits inspection of the contents. Rubber caps for the containers of oily solutions are directed to be of oil-resisting material or the action of the oil prevented by the interposition of a suitable protective material. It is doubtful if really suitable caps for this purpose are available in Great Britain at present, carbon-filled ones being so hard that they tend to blunt needles. For dry heat sterilisation the time of heating is at 150° C. for two hours, instead of for one hour as in the B.P. The method

of sterilisation for morphine sulphate is autoclaving instead of heating with a bactericide.

Under labelling there are two interesting requirements—that the maker should keep such records as will enable each supply to be identified, and that the container should be so labelled that a sufficient area of the container will remain uncovered for its full length or circumference to permit inspection of the contents.

Carbachol Injection

Injection of carbachol is made in water for injection instead of in 5 per cent. of dextrose solution as in the B.P. No nitrogen is included in the sulphonamide injections; and tubocurarine injection is directed to contain buffers but not metabisulphite.

In the appendices there are useful tables of biological standards, reference preparations and usual daily doses for

adults and for children. In setting out doses the symbol γ is used for the microgram instead of the B.P. μg .

The biological test for protamine zinc insulin does not recognise the use of guinea pigs as alternative test animals to rabbits, as in the Addendum to the British Pharmacopœia. The test for pyrogens is similar to that now official in the B.P., except that minimum as well as maximum temperature can exclude rabbits from the test. Food is withdrawn from the animals on the day of the test only, instead of overnight beforehand. The method of interpreting the result is somewhat different, and makes the test slightly less stringent.

The preface to the book pays tribute to the late Dr. C. H. Hampshire, who was chairman for most of the meetings. All concerned with its production, and especially Dr. Paul Blanc and Mr. G. R. Brown, are to be congratulated on an excellent contribution to international pharmacy.

INCOME TAX PROBLEMS

6. NEED FOR RECORDS AND STOCKTAKING

BY A FORMER OFFICIAL OF THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT

RECENT recommendations by the Royal Commission on Taxation relating to the keeping of records will certainly become law in the near future. Every person who carries on a trade, profession or vocation will have to keep a record of receipts and expenditure, of the opening and closing stock-in-trade, and of outstanding debtors and creditors.

Small Traders and Their Accounts

It was represented to the Commission by the Inland Revenue that many small traders fail to make accurate returns of their true profits, sometimes by omitting to include all receipts, sometimes by jockeying the stock-in-trade figures. About one million small traders are assessed at an annual profit of £500 or less. Obviously it is important to impose measures that will make it possible to get more accurate assessments on small traders.

On the other hand the Commission does not require that all traders shall submit accounts. In practice about 85 per cent. of retailers do so. Accounts are a convenience for both the retailer and the Inland Revenue. They save time and reduce the area of possible dispute. The Commission considers it important that, when accounts are submitted in support of a return of income, they shall become a legal part of the return, and that false statements in the accounts shall be just as liable to penalties as false statements in the return itself.

Even if prepared by an accountant, accounts must also be certified by the trader himself on such major points as (1) that all cash takings have been recorded in the books and (2) that all stock has been included in the stock figure. The Commission recommends that the authorities shall be empowered to inspect a taxpayer's private documents and those of his wife, and that, in future, a wife should also be required to sign the joint income-tax return of a married couple.

On the question of valuing stock-in-trade, the Commission has made a number of recommendations in an appendix. Its recommendations, if adopted by the Government, will mean that all traders will have to regard stocktaking much more seriously than they have done in the past. From small traders, the Inland Revenue will probably not require any change in valuation basis, but will almost certainly insist on the production of evidence that a proper stocktaking has been made. Traders who have previously skipped over their stocktakings would be well advised to get their figures on a firm basis so soon as possible, using cost value as the basis of the valuation.

In the past, tax inspectors have leaned heavily on ac-

countants, and have generally turned a blind eye to traders' cash position, except in cases that cried aloud for investigation. Too few tax inspectors were available to undertake the vast amount of work that an investigation in each case would involve. The tax inspectorate has recently been enlarged, and it is the intention to investigate small traders' accounts much more thoroughly. As a basis for their investigations, tax inspectors will undoubtedly call for copies of the cash reconciliation in each case where accounts have been submitted. That document shows how the accountant has calculated and disposed of the cash discrepancy (i.e., how much he has added for unrecorded living expenses and personal drawings and for unrecorded sales).

In many trades it will be possible roughly to check the takings against the normal rate of gross profit. Formerly tax inspectors compared only rates of gross profit within their own areas. The Board of Inland Revenue is now considering the setting-up of a central office at Somerset House at which information about various trades from all over the country will be collated and tabulated, so that local inspectors can widen their basis of comparison and also their sources of information.

Closer Scrutiny

Income-tax returns are going to be examined more closely. Normally, when examining a return, the tax inspector merely compares it with the previous year's return. Where a fuller investigation is deemed necessary the comparison would embrace all the returns for the past ten years or more, and there the Inland Revenue will have the advantage of a complete record of returns. The average taxpayer, on the other hand, usually has no record but his memory, and his returns often contradict themselves over a period of years.

Examinations of past returns may show that investments have increased out of proportion with the declared profits. Sometimes the comparison furnishes only negative information, but even that may be valuable. If a man has made £1,000 a year on the average for the past ten years, one would expect him to have some savings. His returns may show no savings. He may of course be putting his money into Savings Certificates which do not have to be shown on tax returns. A specific inquiry may produce the answer that he has no savings. The tax inspector is entitled to assume, therefore, that his personal expenditure is about £1,000 a year. He checks that with the cash reconciliation prepared by the accountant, which shows that personal expenditure has been calculated at £500 a year.

MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES

Sugar Soap

Can you tell me what "sugar soap" (used for cleaning off paint) is made of?

SUGAR soap is also known as soap extract, and consists of a mixture of powdered soap and dried sodium carbonate, the soap content varying from 15 to 25 per cent.

Waterproofing Cloth

How can I treat cloth to render it waterproof?

A PROCEDURE for waterproofing cloth is to dissolve 3 oz. of alum in $\frac{1}{2}$ -gall. of water and soak the fabric in the solution. Then immerse it in a solution of 4 oz. of lead acetate in $\frac{1}{2}$ -gall. of water. When dry, remove the white powder by brushing.

Pine Solution

A formula you gave recently contained the ingredient "pine solution." What was intended?

PREPARATIONS of the type intended were at one time commercially available. Essentially they were solutions of pine oil in organic solvents such as isopropyl alcohol. It is understood that a strength of about 10 per cent. was usual.

Cider Vinegar

What is cider vinegar? Have you a recipe for making it?

CIDER vinegar is vinegar soured by further fermentation and treatment. To make it, a suitable quantity of cider is allowed to ferment fully in a barrel. That may take two weeks in warm weather. To the product is added about $\frac{4}{5}$ ths the original quantity of new cider to bring about a second fermentation. The procedure is repeated with a similar quantity of new cider. The bung-hole of the barrel is then stopped and the barrel exposed to the sun. Gradually the contents turn to vinegar. To speed up the process there is often added "mother of vinegar," a ropy, whitish coagulum formed in vinegar. The best cider to process is that made from late apples.

Waller's Mixture

We were asked recently for some "wallers' mixture" and had to confess ignorance of what it was. Can you give any information about it?

YES. In those parts of England where stone walls and not hedges divide the fields, dry-walling was a craft that involved, as might be expected, a good deal of backache, and there was a good demand for preparations that promised relief. Formulas varied from pharmacy to pharmacy, but a typical "wallers' mixture" is:—

Turpentine	2 pints
Strong solution of ammonia	1 pint
Ammoniated tincture of	
guaiacum	1 pint
Spirit	1 pint
Powdered tragacanth ...	$1\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Water	to 1 gall.
Dose: Thirty drops in a cup of milk.	

GUIDE TO NEW MEDICAMENTS

Information about proprietary products supplied principally on prescription. Reprints on perforated gummed paper for affixing to index cards are obtainable.

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST Guide to New Medicaments (December 3, 1955).

AMINOMED Compound

MANUFACTURER: Medo-Chemicals, Ltd., 178 Pentonville Road, London, N.1.
DESCRIPTION: Brown, scored tablets each containing theophylline sodium glycidate, gr. $2\frac{3}{4}$; ephedrine hydrochloride, gr. $\frac{3}{8}$; amylobarbitone, gr. $\frac{3}{8}$.

INDICATIONS: Asthma and other allergic disorders.

DOSAGE: *Adult*, 1 tablet every four hours; in severe cases 2 tablets four-hourly after meals, preferably with milk. Two tablets at bedtime will usually prevent an attack during the night. *Children*, $\frac{1}{2}$ tablet four-hourly after meals with milk. 1 tablet at bedtime will usually prevent an attack during the night.

HOW SUPPLIED: In packs of twenty-five, 100 and 250 tablets.

FIRST ISSUED: October 10, 1955.

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST Guide to New Medicaments (December 3, 1955).

HYPERTANE and HYPERTANE Compound

MANUFACTURER: Medo-Chemicals, Ltd., 178 Pentonville Road, London, N.1.

DESCRIPTION: *Hypertane*: Grey tablets each containing total rauwolfia alkaloids, 2 mgm. in standardised form. *Hypertane compound*: Brown tablets each containing total rauwolfia alkaloids, 2 mgm. and amylobarbitone, gr. $\frac{1}{4}$ (15 mgm.).

INDICATIONS: *Hypertane*: Mild and moderate hypertension. *Hypertane compound*: Moderate hypertension.

DOSAGE: 2 tablets at night. If necessary, 2 tablets twice or three times daily.

HOW SUPPLIED: In packs of twenty-five, 100 and 250 tablets.

FIRST ISSUED: October 10, 1955.

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST Guide to New Medicaments (December 3, 1955).

PHOLCOMED Pastilles

MANUFACTURER: Medo-Chemicals, Ltd., 178 Pentonville Road, London, N.1.

DESCRIPTION: Blackcurrant-flavoured pastilles, each containing pholcodine, 4 mgm.; papaverine hydrochloride, 1 mgm.

INDICATIONS: Unproductive cough.

DOSAGE: *Adult*, 1–2 pastilles hourly or when required; *Children*, 1 pastille hourly.

HOW SUPPLIED: In packs of thirty and 250. FIRST ISSUED: October 20, 1955.

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST Guide to New Medicaments (December 3, 1955).

RUBELIX

MANUFACTURER: Fletcher, Fletcher & Co., Ltd., Holloway, London, N.7.

DESCRIPTION: A sedative and antispasmodic cough syrup containing 0.1 per cent. pholcodine (morpholinylethylmorphine) and 0.15 per cent. ephedrine hydrochloride in a palatable demulcent base.

INDICATIONS: Suppression of unproductive cough.

DOSAGE: *Adult*, 2 teaspoonfuls; *Children*, $\frac{1}{2}$ –1 teaspoonful according to age.

HOW SUPPLIED: In 4-fl. oz. and 80-fl. oz. bottles. FIRST ISSUED: October 1955.

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST Guide to New Medicaments (December 3, 1955).

THERMONA

MANUFACTURER: Smith & Nephew, Ltd., Bessemer Road, Welwyn Garden City, Herts.

DESCRIPTION: An analgesic cream.

FORMULA: Dilatal (1-(p-hydroxyphenyl)-2-(1'-methyl-3'-phenylpropylamino)-propanol-(1) hydrochloride), 0.3 per cent.; methyl nicotinate, 1 per cent.; propyl salicylamide, 5 per cent.; and glycol salicylate, 10 per cent.

INDICATIONS: As analgesic in rheumatic conditions, sciatica, lumbago; and as adjuvant to systemic therapy in certain peripheral vascular disorders.

USE: To be rubbed gently into the affected area until completely absorbed. Should not be applied to broken skin, to the face or to the eyes.

HOW SUPPLIED: In tube of 20 gm. (approx.). FIRST ISSUED: September 1955.

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST Guide to New Medicaments (December 3, 1955).

BIOSERPINE Tablets

MANUFACTURER: Biorex Laboratories, Ltd., 47 Exmouth Market, London, E.C.1.

DESCRIPTION: Tablets, each containing 0.25 mgm. or 1 mgm. reserpine.

INDICATIONS: Hypertension.

DOSAGE: 1 tablet three or four times daily.

HOW SUPPLIED: In packs of 500 and 1,000 tablets. FIRST ISSUED: August 1955.

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST Guide to New Medicaments (December 3, 1955).

ORTHATONE

MANUFACTURER: The Commercial Drug and Chemical Co., 343 Commercial Road, London, E.1.

DESCRIPTION: A palatable tonic each fl. oz. of which contains: Aneurine hydrochloride, B.P.C., 3 mgm; strychnine, B.P.C., gr. 7/640; calcium glycerophosphate, B.P.C., gr. $\frac{1}{16}$; magnesium glycerophosphate, B.P.C., gr. $\frac{5}{8}$; manganese glycerophosphate, B.P.C. 1949, gr. $\frac{1}{4}$; iron glycerophosphate, B.P.C., gr. $\frac{5}{16}$; solution of potassium glycerophosphate, B.P.C., gr. $1\frac{1}{4}$; solution of sodium glycerophosphate, B.P.C. 1949, gr. $1\frac{1}{4}$; glycerophosphoric acid, B.P.C., min. $1\frac{1}{4}$; caffeine, B.P.C., gr. $\frac{5}{16}$.

INDICATIONS: Debility, convalescence, loss of appetite.

DOSAGE: *Adult*, 2 to 4 drachms (undiluted), three times daily; *children* (over ten), 1 drachm (undiluted) three times daily.

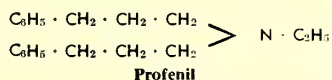
HOW SUPPLIED: In bottles of 80 fl. oz. and 20 fl. oz. FIRST ISSUED: May 1955.

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST Guide to New Medicaments (December 3, 1955).

PROFENIL

MANUFACTURER: The Crookes Laboratories, Ltd., Gorst Road, Park Royal, London, N.W.10.

DESCRIPTION: Tablets each containing 120 mgm. bis-gamma-phenylpropylethylamine citrate.



INDICATIONS: Spastic conditions of the gastro-intestinal tract, the ureter and the bladder. Circulatory spasm, embolism, coronary occlusion when accompanied by vasospasm. Certain cases of primary dysmenorrhoea.

DOSAGE: For most cases 1 tablet three or four times daily is effective, but that dose can be decreased to 1 tablet daily or raised to 3 tablets three times daily. Since Profenil is exceptionally bitter and has a slight and evanescent local anaesthetic action, the tablets should not be chewed or dissolved in the mouth, but swallowed rapidly.

HOW SUPPLIED: In bottles of twenty-five and 250 tablets.

FIRST ISSUED: August 1955.

REFERENCES: Kahn, *Urol. cutan. Rev.*, 1948, **52**, 152. Mantell and Kovnat, *Med. Tms.*, 1946, **74**, 305. Nasio, *Rev. Med. Rosario*, 1947, **7**, 769. *Rev. Gastroent.*, 1945, **12**, 436.

NOTE: Caution is recommended when administering Profenil to hypotensive patients, because it tends to lower blood pressure.

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST Guide to New Medicaments (December 3, 1955).

ENTACYL Suspension*

MANUFACTURER: The British Drug Houses, Ltd., Graham Street, London, N.1.

DESCRIPTION: A suspension of piperazine adipate, each teaspoonful (3.55 mls) of which contains 600 mgm. piperazine adipate.

INDICATIONS: Threadworm, roundworm and whipworm (*Trichuris trichiura*) infestation.DOSAGE: *Children up to six years of age*, $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoonful of suspension per year of age per day. *Children over six years of age and adults*, 1 teaspoonful three times a day. To be given for seven days. If necessary, a further seven-day course may be given one week later (threadworms); or three weeks later (roundworms).

HOW SUPPLIED: In bottles of 8 fl. oz. (225 mls approximately).

FIRST ISSUED: July 1955.

*Cross reference for card index.

PIPERAZINE ADIPATE: See Entacyl and Entacyl suspension.**WORLD TRADE****Chemical Expansion in Canada.**

A four-million dollar expansion programme involving construction of two new chemical plants in Sarnia, Ontario, has been announced by the Dow Chemical of Canada, Ltd.

Italian Mercury Exports.—Italy exported 575.3 metric tons of mercury in the first eight months of 1955, compared with 1,675 tons in the same period of last year, according to the Central Institute of Statistics. The January-August 1955 total included 60.8 tons to France, 317 to West Germany, 48.9 to Poland and 44.8 tons to Great Britain.**Iraqi Ruling on Pharmaceuticals.**—With effect from March 5, 1956, all antibiotic products and preparations imported into Iraq will have to be provided with an analysis certificate issued by a specialised laboratory in the exporting country, and certified by the "Department of Health of the exporting city or state, and notarised by the Iraq consulate."**U.S. Lithium Operations Slow-down.**

—The Lithium Corporation of America, Inc., is to place its South Dakota mining operations on a "stand-by" basis because its accumulated stocks of lithium ore are now at a level sufficient for several months of refining operations. New supplies have come from Canadian mines and from the company's mine and chemical plant at Bessemer City.

Finnish Foreign Import Allocation.

—The Finnish licencing board has allocated a sum of 9,800 million marks in foreign currency for regulated imports in the last quarter of this year. Included are allocations for chemicals and pharmaceutical goods to the value of £115,000 from Great Britain, also (in varying amounts) from Holland, Switzerland, West Germany, United States and Israel.

Anglo-Portuguese Trade Talks.

Trade talks took place in Lisbon between Portuguese and United Kingdom representatives from November 15 to November 26, regarding arrangements to govern trade between Portugal (and Portuguese overseas territories) and the United Kingdom for 1956. Agreement was reached on bilateral quotas to be applied to those imports which are neither free from quantitative restrictions nor subject to global quotas and on availability of supplies of essential products.

French Compensatory Tax.

General concern has been expressed by all members of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (G.A.T.T.) during the current session in Geneva at the continuation by the French Government of a special compensatory tax. Representatives from Great Britain, the Scandinavian countries, Italy, Austria, Belgium and the Netherlands criticised the slow progress made by the French Government towards the eventual elimination of the tax and asked for assurances of a faster rate of elimination during the next year. The French Government was asked to report back to the G.A.T.T. on progress made towards elimination of the tax in the middle of 1956.

HOSPITAL PHARMACY FORUM

OUT-PATIENT DISPENSING

THE practice of dispensing prescriptions for hospital out-patients is a reminder of the old days of the charity hospitals. The great voluntary hospitals were founded by men and women of goodwill in order to provide medical aid for the sick poor, who could not otherwise have obtained it. As the larger hospitals later became teaching centres, they became the mainspring of medical knowledge, and the academic interest mingled with the purely philanthropic in selecting the patients to be admitted.

Why Departments Grew

Before the present National Health Service scheme began in 1948, a large proportion of the patients admitted to the out-patient clinics were the dependants of insured persons, i.e., the wives and children of manual workers who, without the help of the hospitals, would have had to find considerable sums of money to pay for the treatment they received. Many of them paid voluntary subscriptions to hospital funds and, indeed, without those funds the hospitals could not have continued. It was to meet the needs of such people that the practice of out-patient dispensing grew.

Under the N.H.S. scheme every citizen has the right of medical treatment, and the need for special arrangements for the sick poor no longer exist. One might expect, therefore, to see a fall in the amount of out-patient dispensing. That has not been the case. Indeed, in some hospitals the number of prescriptions has increased. Some notion of the extent of the increase may be obtained from figures quoted recently in an article by the chief pharmacist of St. Bartholomew's Hospital (*Pharm. J.*, Nov. 19) which are probably typical of those for many other hospitals. When it has been suggested that out-patient work is not really appropriate nowadays and that the prescriptions should be dispensed in the pharmacies outside hospitals, the suggestion is met with opposition by the hospital pharmacists. In the first place, it is argued, much of the prescribing is of a special nature which would probably cause difficulty for the patient and the pharmacist to whom the prescription went. That, of course, is true for a small proportion of prescriptions, but Elliott's figures show that the amount of routine dispensing of standard tablets and capsules is still very large. Some doctors, however, like to keep the patient under close supervision for a time, and therefore prefer that their medicines should be provided from the hospital pharmacy. In other cases the drugs are only available to hospital patients (e.g. (until very recently), cortisone and related compounds). There is thus a legitimate field in which it is to his general good that the patient should get his drugs from the hospital pharmacy rather than on an open prescription elsewhere. But there are also many instances in which the patient could quite well obtain them from the chemist.

Better to Discontinue?

In the present state of staffing in the pharmaceutical departments, one is tempted to ask whether it would not be better if some of the out-patient dispensing were discontinued and the patients sent to their own chemists with EC10's. So far, there has been no indication from the Ministry of Health that such a change would be welcomed. That is perhaps due to the fact that this kind of dispensing may be cheaper than that from private and company pharmacies. It is also more convenient for the patient. So there is not likely to be any public outcry against the practice. The question is: for how long can the pharmacists in the hospital service maintain this work without detriment to their first responsibility, the in-patient? The latter, unlike the out-patient, has no alter-

native source for his pharmaceutical supplies and must depend upon the hospital pharmacist. If some of the out-patient work were allowed to go, it might be possible to effect a redeployment of existing hospital staffs to give a better in-patient service. For example, by developing the group system under a single group chief-pharmacist, the technical work could be shared among a number of hospitals and pooled. Some of the smaller units could possibly be run by a part-time service, thus saving staff and also providing more variety and interest for the pharmacists concerned, who would probably spend part of their time at a larger and busier hospital. In spite of the recommendations of the Linstead Committee, the Ministry seems to have paid little attention to redevelopments of this kind, and it seems that any new moves will have to come from the pharmacists themselves.

BRITISH FINE CHEMICALS AND THEIR USES

48. MAGNESIUM CARBONATE

MAGNESIUM carbonate while obtained native in relatively pure condition, is also prepared as a fine chemical, in both "heavy" and "light" powders, and is also marketed as wrapped blocks. Today, large deposits of magnesite in India are calcined in producer-fired kilns resembling blast furnaces in construction. From those, magnesia is obtained which serves as the usual raw material for producing the metal, though efforts have been made to recover magnesium carbonate directly from dolomite by super-saturating the bicarbonate (produced by burning) with carbon dioxide, thereby ensuring separation of the calcium salts. The carbonate is also obtained by the action of sodium bicarbonate on magnesia, by the action of carbon dioxide on moist magnesia, and by different methods of adding sodium carbonate to magnesium sulphate. Many of the systems are protected by patent rights. Considerable importance attaches to the temperature of precipitation, which alters the weight and physical properties of the product. Apart from its use in medicine, light magnesium carbonate is used in some toilet powders, face powders, etc., while the heavy carbonate is preferred for shaving creams, tooth powders, etc. It is used for both heat-insulating and fire-proofing compositions, for polishing powders, and for cleaning powders. In conjunction with asbestos, it forms one of the best covering mediums for steam piping, though today the composition meets competition from vermiculite in different forms. Both light and heavy magnesium carbonates are used in the production of rubber and synthetic rubber articles, in the dressing of cotton goods, and in dry-cleaning processes. The heavy powder is used in the ceramic industries, as the raw material for the preparation of other magnesium salts, and in the prevention of scale in boilers. It is also employed in different branches of the paint and varnish trades for making fire-resistant paint compositions, and in textile printing, where it is applied in "resists" under aniline black. The carbonate in a variety with three molecules of water is used in the production of a number of select mineral waters. Magnesium carbonate is used as a filtering medium, in acid-neutralising fertilisers, as a source of carbon dioxide, in the production of Pyrex glass, and for making magnesia inks.

ECHOES OF THE PAST

RECEIPT FOR DROPSY

From the *Universal Magazine*, November 1748

FOR the Dropsy. Mix four ounces of syrup of elderberries, with two ounces of oil of turpentine; incorporate them well together; and take one large spoonful of this mixture, first and last, for a fortnight.

Note. That sea-bisket and new raisins of the sun (if they can be had) eaten constantly, instead of suppers, have cured that distemper without physic, especially if the party can refrain from small liquors.

TRADE REPORT

The prices given are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. Various charges have to be added whereby values are in many instances augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock. Crude drugs and essential oils vary greatly in quality and higher prices are charged for selected qualities.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 30: Quiet conditions again prevailed in most sections of the markets during the week. Stocks of ALOES in Curaçao were said to be almost exhausted, and in South Africa only a parcel of extra prime was offered.

Sumatra BENZOIN turned a little firmer for shipment, while spot supplies of Myrrh, which have been scarce for some time because of the high prices asked at origin, were cleared at £18 per cwt. for the Aden selected sorts, against £16 asked recently. From the United States it was reported that no stocks of *PODOPHYLLUM Peltatum* or WITCH HAZEL LEAVES remain in the hands of merchants. TURMERIC was unchanged on the spot, but new-crop for shipment was firmer at 107s. 6d. per cwt. for April-May against 97s. 6d. for March-April. Among BALSAMS, CANADA was quoted one shilling per lb. dearer by at least one holder of spot supplies, whilst PERU was threepence dearer. Among the few CRUDE DRUGS which showed an easier tendency were GUM ACACIA (down 5s. per cwt.), MENTHOL (1s. 6d. per lb.), and new-crop AGAR for shipment (sixpence). African GINGER was again lower but short offerings of Jamaican made the No. 3 variety 10s. per cwt. dearer.

Manufacturers of NICOTINIC ACID and derivatives have reduced their prices in the face of strong competition from Continental sellers.

Whilst Ceylon CITRONELLA was slightly lower on the spot, the Formosan oil was dearer by sixpence per lb. in all positions. The influx of Peruvian BOIS DE ROSE on the New York market sent down the price of Brazilian material at origin by 1s. 6d. per lb.; spot holders followed with a one shilling per lb. reduction. Other ESSENTIAL OILS showing a downward tendency were ANISE (down threepence per lb.), Madagascan CLOVE LEAF (threepence), Chinese PEPPERMINT (threepence), PATCHOULI (3s.), and TANGERINE (2s.).

Pharmaceutical Chemicals

AMYLOBARBITONE. — B.P.C. is 65s. per lb. for 1-cwt. lots and SODIUM, B.P.C., 70s. per lb.

ASPIRIN. — Prices are as follows:—5-cwt. lots, 4s. 7d. per lb.; 1-cwt., 4s. 7½d.; 28-lb., and under 1-cwt., 5s. 5d. Smaller lots from 5s. 7½d. to 6s. 2½d., as to quantity and package.

ATROPINE. — Rates (per oz.) for 16-oz. lots are: ALKALOID, 30s. 9d.; SULPHATE, 25s. 9d.; METHYLBROMIDE, 31s. 9d.

BENTONITE. — Offers of B.P. material are about £70 per ton as to quantity.

CHLOROFORM. — 1-cwt. lots in winchesters are 3s. 6d. per lb.; 56-lb., 3s. 6½d. In drums, prices are 3s. 4d. and 3s. 4½d.

CITRIC ACID. — Quotations (per cwt.) for domestic material are 205s. for 1-4 cwt. lots and 200s. for 5-cwt. lots.

CRESOL. — Price of B.P. quality from distillers is 7s. 9d. per gall. in 5-gall. lots.

DIPHENAN. — Prices range from 55s. 3d. (56-lb.) to 63s. (1-lb.) per lb.

EPHEDRINE. — In 100-oz lots ALKALOID is 7s. per oz.; HYDROCHLORIDE and SULPHATE, 4s. 3d. per oz.

FERROUS GLUCONATE. — B.P.C. is 6s. 6d. per lb. in 1-cwt. lots.

FORMALDEHYDE. — B.P. solution is 37s. 3d. per cwt. for 4-cwt. lots including free drums.

GLYCERIN. — Rates for pharmaceutically pure are as follows:—

	Under 1-cwt.	1-cwt. and under 5-cwt.	5-cwt. and under 1 ton	1 ton and under 5 tons	5 tons and under 25 tons
Minimum deliveries off contract of	—	1-cwt.	1-cwt.	5-cwt.	10-cwt.
Per cwt.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
TINS					
14-lb.	301 0	296 6	292 6	288 0	285 6
28-lb.	299 0	294 6	290 6	286 0	283 6
56-lb.	295 0	290 6	286 6	282 0	279 6
DRUMS					
1-cwt.	—	274 6	270 6	266 0	264 6
2½-cwt.	—	271 6	268 0	263 6	262 0
5-cwt.	—	—	267 6	263 0	261 6
10-cwt.	—	—	266 6	262 6	261 0

Refined pale straw industrial glycerin s.g. 1.260 is 5s. per cwt. less than the above.

GLYCEROPHOSPHATES. — Rates per lb. for 1-cwt. lots are as follows:—ACID, B.P.C., 20 per cent., 5s. 9d.; CALCIUM, soluble B.P.C., 11s. 9d.; IRON, B.P.C., scale, 15s. 9d. and powder, 14s. 9d.; MAGNESIUM, soluble, B.P.C., 14s. 3d., and insoluble, 7s. 6d.; MANGANESE, B.P.C., 26s. 3d.; POTASSIUM, 50 per cent., B.P.C., 3s. 9d. and 75 per cent., B.P.C., 5s. 6d.; SODIUM, 50 per cent., B.P.C., 3s. 1d. and 75 per cent., B.P.C., 4s. 6d.

HOMATROPINE. — Current rates (per oz.) for 16-oz. lots are now: ALKALOID, 56s. 9d.; HYDROBROMIDE, 39s. 3d.; HYDROCHLORIDE, 43s. 2d.; METHYLBROMIDE, 35s. 9d. 1-oz. rates are about 6d. per oz. higher in all cases.

HYDROCYANIC ACID. — Dilute B.P.C. is from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 11d. per lb., as to quantity; Scheeles is from 1s. 8d. to 2s. 3d.

IODINE. — Resublimed is 17s. 1d. per lb. in 1-cwt. lots. Minimum delivered rate for CRUDE is 22s. 10d. per kilo.

NICOTINAMIDE. — Prices per kilo are now: 1 kilo, 92s. 6d.; 10 kilos, 90s.; 50 kilos, 88s. 6d.

NICOTINIC ACID. — Prices per kilo are:—1 kilo lot, 57s. 6d.; 10 kilos, 55s.; 50 kilos, 53s. 3d.

NIKETHAMIDE. — Prices per kilo are:—1 kilo, 113s.; 50 kilos, 105s.

PHENAZONE. — Minimum price for quantity is 13s. 10½d. per lb. with usual differentials for smaller lots. 1-cwt. is now 14s. 1½d. per lb.

PHENOL. — Basic price for crystals in drums is 1s. 4d. per lb., and for LIQUID, B.P., 1s. 3½d.

PHYSTIGMINE. — Scarce. Current rates per 1 doz. tubes of 1 gm. are:—ALKALOID, 148s. 5d.; SALICYLATE, 124s. 3d.; SULPHATE, 134s. 6d.

PILOCARPINE. — In 100-oz. (or 2½-kilo) lots prices are: HYDROCHLORIDE, 42s. 6d. per oz. (1,428s. 6d. per kilo); NITRATE, 38s. per oz. (1,340s. per kilo).

POTASSIUM ACETATE. — B.P. is 2s. 8d. per lb. in 1-cwt. lots.

POTASSIUM CHLORIDE. — In 1-cwt. lots B.P. is 1s. 6d. per lb.

POTASSIUM NITRATE. — Pharmacopoeial quality is 145s. per cwt. (crystal, granular or powder) and commercial, 90s.

POTASSIUM PERMANGANATE. — Rate for B.P. material for 1-cwt. lots is 1s. 9d. per lb., and for technical, 183s. 6d. per cwt.

PROCAINE HYDROCHLORIDE. — 1-cwt. lots are 30s. per lb.

PYROGALLIC ACID. — Pure crystals are 18s. per lb. in 1-cwt. lots.

QUINIDINE. — Prices (per oz.) for minimum 100-oz. lots in the home market are: ALKALOID, 8s. 9d.; SULPHATE, 6s. 7d. Extra charges for small lots.

RESORCINOL. — 1-cwt. lots are now quoted at 13s. per lb. by manufacturer.

SALICYLAMIDE. — Price (per lb.) for 1-cwt. lots is 8s. 6d.

SALICYLIC ACID. — Prices are now: 5-cwt. lots in bulk, 3s. 0½d. per lb.; 1-cwt., 3s. 1d.; 28-lb. and under 1-cwt., 3s. 8d.

SANTONIN. — The following prices apply in the home market, including Eire:—5-kilo lots, £51 10s. per kilo; 2-4-kilo lots, £52; 1-kilo, £52 10s.; 500 gm., £54 10s.; 250 gm., £55 10s.; smaller quantities, £56 10s. to £57 10s.

SODIUM METABISULPHITE. — Granular in 1-ton lots is from £46 2s. 6d. to £50 7s. 6d. per ton according to packing.

SODIUM PHOSPHATE. — B.P. powder is 125s. per cwt.

SULPHACETAMIDE. — Quotations (per lb.) for 1-cwt. lots are 24s. 6d. The SODIUM DERIVATIVE is 30s.

SULPHAGUANIDINE. — Manufacturers' rates for 1-cwt. lots are about 14s. 6d. per lb.

SULPHANILAMIDE. — Manufacturers' rates are from 6s. 3d. per lb.

SULPHATHIAZOLE. — Price (per lb.) for 1-cwt. lots is 22s.

THYMOL. — Prices (per lb.) are 17s. 9d. for 28-lb. and 17s. 3d. for 1-cwt. lots.

ZINC CHLORIDE. — B.P.C., cake from 4s. 6d. to 4s. 10d. per lb.; sticks from 5s. 10d. to 6s. 2d. per lb. TECHNICAL, 153s. per cwt.

ZINC SULPHATE. — B.P. in 1-cwt. lots is quoted at 1s. 2d. per lb.; 28-lb., 1s. 5d.

Crude Drugs

AGAR. — *Kobé* No. 1 is 12s. 3d. per lb. in bond and 13s. 6d., duty paid. New-crop offers are easier at 11s. 3d., c.i.f. (January-February).

ACONITE. — Spot supplies of Spanish *napellus* are 4s. per lb., duty paid.

ALOES. — Prime Cape is cleared on the spot. Extra prime for shipment is 297s. 6d., c.i.f. Curaçao for shipment, 315s., c.i.f.

ANISEED (STAR). — Chinese is in limited supply at 165s., duty paid, with c.i.f. quotations at 142s. per cwt.

ANTIMONY. — English 99.6 per cent. is £222 10s.; 99 per cent., £210 per ton.

ASAFCETIDA. — Persian block is from £10 to £14 per cwt., duty paid, as to quality.

BALSAMS. — Quotations (per lb.) are:—*Canada*: spot offers are firmer at 20s. *Copaiba*, soluble, 8s., duty paid. *Peru* is scarce on the spot at 9s. 10½d., duty paid and firmer for shipment at 9s. 3d., c.i.f. *Tolu* (genuine as imported) is 25s. 6d.; B.P. is 17s. 6d., spot.

BELLADONNA. — Root is offered at from 2s. to 2s. 3d. per lb. as to test, and LEAVES testing 0.714 per cent. are quoted at 3s. 9d., duty paid.

BENZOIN. — Sumatra block on the spot is from £25 to £32 per cwt. No. 1 for shipment is £24 5s., c.i.f. Almonds, 15s. per lb., c.i.f.

CAMPBOR.—B.P. POWDER is 6s. 6d. per lb., duty paid and 5s. 3d., c.i.f. TABLETS, 1-oz. are 7s. 6d., duty paid, and 6s. 6d., c.i.f.

CAPRICUMS.—East African on stalk are 150s. per cwt. spot. Abyssinian, off stalk, 180s., spot, duty paid.

CARDAMOMS. — Aleppy greens are 14s. 3d. per lb. on the spot; afloat, 13s. 9d., c.i.f., prompt shipment, 13s., c.i.f.; December-January, 12s. 9d.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Unchanged. American 1954 peel is 260s. per cwt., duty paid. Offers of new-crop remain firm around 240s., c.i.f.

CASSIA BARK. — Whole on the spot is about 90s. per cwt., in bond, and for forward delivery, 80s., c.i.f. Broken, 75s., in bond, and 67s. 6d., c.i.f.

CHERRY BARK. — Thin natural is from 1s. 6d. per lb., duty paid, and rossed, 2s., on the spot.

CINNAMON.—Ceylon for shipment (c.i.f.) per lb., OOOO, 6s.; OOO, 5s. 10d.; OO, 5s. 9d.; O, 5s. 7½d.; firsts, 4s. 10½d.; quillings, 3s.; chips, 9½d. to 10½d.

CLOVES.—Zanzibar on the spot are now quoted at 3s. 3d. per lb.; prompt shipment, 3s. 0½d., c.i.f.

COCILLANA.—Bark is 2s. 6d. per lb. on the spot.

ERGOT.—Portuguese on the spot is 11s. per lb.; forward, 10s., c.i.f.; Polish, 7s., c.i.f.; American, 10s., spot.

GINGER. — African is offered on the spot at 252s. 6d. per cwt. with sellers for shipment at 240s., c.i.f., for old crop. Jamaican No. 3 is quoted at 450s. on the spot.

GUM ACACIA. — Kordofan cleaned sorts on the spot are 140s. per cwt. and December shipment, 130s., c.i.f. New-crop, January-March 1956 shipment, 125s.

HENNA.—Whole leaf: Indian is 90s. per cwt. for the green; Egyptian, 100s.

HYDRASTIS. — Root is from 18s. to 19s. 6d. per lb., on the spot.

IPECACUANHA. — Nicaraguan is offered for shipment at about 63s. per lb., c.i.f., January-February 1956 delivery; Colombian at 49s. 6d., c.i.f. Spot Colombian is 57s. 6d.

KOLA NUTS. — Jamaican are offered at about 8d. per lb., spot.

LOBELIA HERB. — Spot or landed value is about 10s. per lb. for American material.

LYCOPodium. — Supplies of Russian triple-sifted are exhausted on the spot, forward prices are 5s. 6d. to 7s. 6d., c.i.f., as to position.

MENTHOL.—Chinese is 48s. 6d. per lb., duty paid, and 45s., c.i.f., December-January shipment.

MYRRH. — Aden selected sorts are cleared on the spot.

PEPPER. — Quiet. White Sarawak on the spot is 2s. 9½d. per lb.; December shipment is 2s. 9d., c.i.f. Black Sarawak is 2s. 1d. spot, with December shipment offered at 1s. 10d., c.i.f. Black Malabar is 350s. per cwt., spot; and December shipment, 265s., c.i.f.

PODOPHYLLUM. — *Emodi* is quoted at 150s. per cwt., ex wharf. *Peltatum* is firm at 430s. on the spot with no shipment offers.

PSYLLIUM.—Indian seeds are quoted at 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per lb. on the spot.

RAUWOLFIA.—*Serpentina* is 6s. per lb. on the spot and 3s. 9d., c.i.f. *Canescens* is 1s. 6d. per lb., spot.

RHUBARB. — Quotations are from 7s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. per lb. as to quality.

SEEDS. — (Per cwt.) ANISE.—Cyprian, 270s.; Tunisian, 265s., duty paid, both spot London. CARAWAY. — Dutch are quiet with sellers quoting 160s., duty paid London. CELERY. — Indian is offering at

140s., spot London. CORIANDER. — Market firm. Spot, Moroccan, 95s., duty paid, nominal; Rumanian or Danubian, 75s., duty paid. Shipment, Moroccan, 72s. 6d., c.i.f., quoted with no business passing. CUMIN. — Market steady with business doing in both spot and forward positions. Spot Cyprian, 132s. 6d.; Iranian, 125s., duty paid; Moroccan, 135s., duty paid. Shipment, Cyprian, 118s. 6d.; Iranian, 110s. and Moroccan, 135s., all c.i.f., London. DILL. — Indian quiet at 62s. 6d., spot London. FENNEL. — Unchanged. Indian, 87s. 6d.; Chinese, 85s., in bond. FENUGREEK. — Firm. Indian on spot is now 75s., with 76s., c.i.f., quoted for December shipment; no Moroccan available on spot. For shipment, 58s., c.i.f., quoted. MUSTARD. — English, 55s. to 72s. 6d., according to quality.

SENEGA. — Spot value is 22s. 6d. per lb. Shipment, 21s. 6d., c.i.f.

SHELLAC. — F.O.T.N. is 375s. per cwt.; F.O. No. 1, 395s.; fine orange, 415s. to 475s.

SLIPPERY ELM. — Grinding quality bark is 2s. 7d. per lb., landed.

SQUILL.—White is offered on the spot at 65s. to 70s. per cwt.

STRAMONIUM. — Indian LEAVES are 75s. per cwt. and European 80s. on the spot.

STYRAX.—Spot is 5s. 8d. per lb., duty paid.

TRAGACANTH.—No. 1 ribbon is £170 to £175 per cwt.; No. 2, £130 to £135.

TURMERIC.—Madras finger on the spot is unchanged at 160s. per cwt. New crop for April-May 1956 shipment now quoted at 107s. 6d., c.i.f.

Essential and Expressed Oils

ANISE. — Chinese is quoted at 17s. 6d. per lb. on the spot and 16s. 10½d., c.i.f.

BOIS DE ROSE. — Brazilian is 33s. per lb. on the spot and 29s. 6d., c.i.f.

BUCHU.—Spot is offered at 360s. per lb.

CARAWAY.—English-distilled is offered at 55s. and imported at 31s. 6d. per lb., duty paid.

CASSIA.—Original drums are about 14s. per lb. on the spot. Shipment, 15s., c.i.f.

CEDARWOOD.—1-cwt. lots of American are 6s. 6d. per lb.

CHAMOMILE. — English oil is offered at from 240s. to 256s. per lb.

CITRONELLA. — Ceylon is quoted at 6s. 5d. per lb. on the spot and 6s. 1d., c.i.f.; Formosan spot is 14s. 6d., in bond, with forward at 13s. 10½d., c.i.f. Java type is not quoted.

CLOVE.—Madagascar leaf is 9s. 6d. per lb., duty paid and 8s. 3d., c.i.f., for shipment. Rectified 87-88 per cent., 14s.; distilled bud oil, English, from 35s.; imported, 17s. 6d.

COD-LIVER.—B.P. is 11s. 6d. per gall. in charged returnable drums. Veterinary is from 9s. 6d. per gall.

CORIANDER.—Russian-seed oil is quoted from 85s. to 95s. per lb.

CUBEB. — Spot price for small lots is 50s. per lb.

CUMIN. — Quotations for English-distilled oil are about 110s. per lb. and imported, 57s. 6d.

DILL. — B.P. English-distilled oil is quoted at 60s. per lb. Imported oils are scarce at 36s. per lb.

EUCALYPTUS.—Australian 70 to 75 per cent. eucalyptol on the spot is 5s. 8d. per lb.; 80 to 85 per cent., 6s. 4d. Spanish 70 to 75 per cent., firm at 5s. 6d., duty paid. Chinese type, 5s., duty paid.

FENNEL.—Spanish sweet on the spot is quoted from 12s. per lb. with Russian at 18s. 6d.

GARLIC.—English is 55s. per oz.

GERANIUM.—Bourbon is 87s. 6d. per lb. on the spot.

GINGERGRASS.—Offers are from 30s. to 31s. per lb.

HYDNOCARPUS.—Spot is about 2s. 2d. per lb.

JUNIPER BERRY. — Imported oils are quoted from 15s. 6d. per lb., duty paid. English-distilled is now 155s.

LAVENDER. — Quiet. 38-40 per cent. linalol on the spot ranges from 30s. to 50s. per lb., in 5-cwt. lots, with best grades of 40-42 upwards of 72s.

LAVENDER SPIKE.—Spanish is offered at 13s. 6d. per lb.

LEMONGRASS. — Quiet. Spot is 14s. 6d. per lb., nominal and shipment, 13s., c.i.f.

OLIVE.—Spanish virgin and pharmaceutical oils (B.P.) fixed price is on the basis of £214 10s. per 1,000 kilos, f.o.b., Spanish ports, but stocks are very short. Equivalent landed terms ex-wharf London/Liverpool, 21s. per gall. French virgin edible or B.P., £280 per 1,000 kilos c. and f., prompt shipment. Spot is 26s. per gall.

ORIGANUM.—In original containers the price is 15s. to 16s. per lb. for the 60/70 per cent. phenols.

PALMAROSA. — East Indian is from 62s. 6d. per lb. on the spot and from 55s., c.i.f., for December shipment. Madagascar is 55s., spot.

PATCHOULI. — Penang is 50s., duty paid, and 43s., c.i.f.

PENNYROYAL. — Spot is scarce with sellers asking 24s. per lb., duty paid.

PEPPERMINT. — *Arvensis*: Chinese is 33s. 6d. per lb. on the spot and 33s. 3d., c.i.f. Brazilian, 31s., spot, and 26s., c.i.f. Italian "Mitcham"-type oil is from 70s., spot, and American, 42s. 6d. to 47s. 6d.

ROSEMARY.—Spanish oil on the spot is from 5s. 3d. per lb., duty paid, for drum lots.

RUE.—Spot offers are from 14s. per lb.

SASSAFRAS.—Brazilian is 7s. per lb., duty paid.

TANGERINE. — Sicilian is from 37s. to 43s. per lb. on the spot; Californian is 17s. 6d.

UNITED STATES REPORT

NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 29: Major industrial alcohol producers plan an advance of schedules on January 1, 1956, which will boost ETHYL ALCOHOL by two cents a gallon to 42 cents for the 190-proof product. GLYCERIN continued to move at a brisk rate during the week under review, with supplies of the crude material considered below satisfactory levels. The price for RESER-PINE was again reduced to \$8 per gm., a drop of \$1 owing to greater availability of RAUWOLFIA SERPENTINA. Higher per lb. among CRUDE DRUGS was Siam gum BENZOIN at \$4.80 (up 30 cents). Lower per lb. were COPAIBA BALSAM at 80 cents (down 10 cents); KARAYA GUM, number 2, at 43 cents (down two cents) and number 3 at 38 cents (down two cents). Moderate decline in activity was apparent in the field of AROMATICS and ESSENTIAL OILS. Higher per lb. were NUTMEG at \$4.40 (up 15 cents), and MACE, \$4.40 (15 cents). East Indian LEMONGRASS is now \$2.30 (up 10 cents), and Algerian GERANIUM, \$13.25 (50 cents). Lower per lb. were native CANANGA at \$7.35 (down 25 cents); CHENOPODIUM, \$3.40 (10 cents); and CEDARWOOD, 65 cents (five cents). BOIS DE ROSE remains on the easy side.

TRADE MARKS

APPLICATIONS ADVERTISED BEFORE REGISTRATION

From the "Trade Marks Journal," November 16

For nail enamels and nail polish (3)
MODERNATA, 740,604, by Helen Neuschaeffer Inc., New York, U.S.A.

For all goods (1)
CRISEOMICINA, 744,615, by Farmaceutici Italia S.A., Milan, Italy.

For pharmaceutical preparations in tablet form for use in the treatment of asthma and hay fever (5)
CARDROX, 743,785, by Carlton Laboratories (Southern), Ltd., Brighton, Sussex.

For pharmaceutical preparations and products (5)
ALU-SED, 745,213, by John Wyeth & Bro., Ltd., London, N.16.

For non-medicated toilet preparations (3)
GLIX, 742,482, by London Co-operative Chemists, Ltd., London, E.15. MINX, 743,941, by Walldorf Perfumery Co., Sutton, Surrey. PRAIRIE OYSTER, 745,110, by Cussons, Sons & Co., Ltd., Kersal Vale, Manchester. GOLDEN MIST, 745,377, by A & F. Pears, Ltd., Isleworth, Middlesex.

From the "Trade Marks Journal," November 23

For plastics in the form of powders, pastes, liquids, emulsions, dispersions, pellets and granulates for industrial purposes (1)
TROLITAN, 701,541, by Dynamit A.G. Vormals Alfred Nobel & Co., Cologne, Germany.

For finely-divided silica for use in industry and science (1)
Device with the wording AEROSIL DE-GUSSA, 710,284, by Deutsche Gold-und Silber Scheideanstalt vormals Roessler, Frankfurt, Germany.

For surface-coated inorganic colloids and aggregates, all being chemical products used in industry (1)
VALRON, 737,935, by E. I. Du Pont De Nemours & Co., Wilmington, Delaware, U.S.A.

For all goods (1)
INTPACK, 738,486, by International Packers, Ltd., Chicago, U.S.A.

For adhesives (1)
MIXAFIX, 745,551, by E. M. Cromwell & Co., Ltd., Bishop's Stortford, Herts.

For all goods (3)
LAUNDRIX, 743,021, by J. Bibby & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool. QUEEN CHARLOTTE, 745,369, by Southalls (Birmingham), Ltd., Birmingham.

For abrasive-coated materials (3)
NOFIL, 743,851, by Norton Co., Worcester, 6, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

For chlorane, heptachlor, aldrin and dieldrin; and their preparations all for use in destroying insects and pests (5)
Device with the word VELICOL, 733,234, by Arvey Corporation, Chicago, U.S.A.

For pharmaceutical substances and preparations, but not including medicated toilet paper or any goods of the same description (5)
SALZONE, 743,595, by Wallace Manufacturing Chemists, Ltd., London, N.W.3.

For all goods, but not including medicated confectionery (5)
SEP, 744,258, by Scott & Turner, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

For pharmaceutical substances for human and veterinary use; and disinfectants and sanitary substances; all containing fluorine (5)
FLUOTHANE, 744,725, by Imperial Chemical (Pharmaceuticals), Ltd., London, S.W.1.

For all goods (5)
QUEEN CHARLOTTE, 745,370, by Southalls (Birmingham), Ltd., Birmingham. Device, 745,907, by The Wellcome Foundation, Ltd., London, N.W.1. EMACTIL, 745,953, by Pharmaceutical Specialities (May & Baker), Ltd.

For photographic and optical apparatus and instruments (9)
FORTOSCOPE, 744,253, by Johan Sam Jacobson, The Hague, Holland.

For agricultural, horticultural and forestry products and foodstuffs for animals (31)
COMPRELAN, 744,680, by Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd., Greenford, Middlesex.

For disinfectants, insecticides, insect-repelling preparations, fumigating preparations, deodorants and preparations for the purification of air, all being goods for sale in Northern Ireland (5)
PERMATOX, 734,654, by Magowan, Vicars & Co., Belfast.

For surgical, medical and dental and veterinary instruments and apparatus (10)
Device with the wording AESCULAP, 743,650, by Aktiengesellschaft für Feinmechanik vormals Jetter & Scheerer, Tuttlingen/Württemberg, Germany.

COMING EVENTS

Items for inclusion under this heading should be sent in time to reach the Editor not later than first post on Wednesday of the week of insertion.

Monday, December 5

HULL CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION and BRANCH, Imperial hotel, Hull, at 1.30 p.m. Luncheon club.

MANCHESTER BRANCH, GUILD OF PUBLIC PHARMACISTS, Grand hotel, Manchester, at 7 p.m. Mr. C. C. Stevens, LL.B., M.P.S. (Imperial Chemical (Pharmaceuticals), Ltd.), on "Leading Cases in Forensic Pharmacy."

STOCKPORT BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Boyle's café, Park Street, Stockport, at 7.45 p.m. Film show sponsored by Imperial Chemical (Pharmaceuticals), Ltd. Films entitled "The Birth of a Drug," "Treasure Trove," and "Making Bottles."

WEST KENT BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, public library, Beckenham, at 8 p.m. Professor W. H. Linnell, M.Sc., D.Sc., Ph.D., F.P.S., F.R.I.C., on "Adventures in Pharmaceutical Research."

Tuesday, December 6

GLASGOW PHARMACY CLUB, James Craig's tea-room, 453 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, at 7.30 p.m. Whist drive. Ticket 4s. 6d. from Mr. R. Anderson, 8 Main Street, Milngavie.

NORTH STAFFS BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Grand hotel, Hanley, at 7.30 p.m. Dr. Arwyn Roberts (Boots, Ltd.) on "Recent Advances in the Treatment of Mental Diseases."

Wednesday, December 7

CAMBRIDGE and HUNTINGDON BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Matthew's café, 14 Trinity Street, Cambridge, at 8 p.m. Dr. A. Rook (consultant dermatologist, Addenbrooke's Hospital) on "Recent Advances in the Management of Some Common Diseases of the Skin."

PORTSMOUTH BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Royal Beach hotel, Southsea, at 7 p.m. Annual dinner and dance.

ROMFORD BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, White Hart hotel, Hornchurch, at 7.30 p.m. Christmas party. Ticket 6s. 6d. from Mr. W. J. Wright, 77 Bridge Avenue, Upminster.

SOUTH SHIELDS PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION, Marine Grotto, Marsden, at 7.30 p.m. Christmas party.

WESTERN PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION, Bonnington hotel, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, at 7.15 p.m. Cosmetic lecture and demonstration "Skin Care and the Art of Make-up," by a representative of Yardley & Co., Ltd.

Thursday, December 8

BOURNEMOUTH BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Grand hotel, Bournemouth, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. D. P. Ayres (Ilford, Ltd.) on "Colour Photography."

BURY BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Old Boar's Head hotel, The Rock, Bury, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. Bryant (Imperial Chemical (Pharmaceuticals), Ltd.) on "Modern Drugs and Antibiotics."

CHELTEMHAM BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Gloucestershire Dairy café, Promenade, Cheltenham, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. T. Heseltine (a member of the Society's Council) on "Pharmacy Today as I See It."

DUNDEE AND EASTERN SCOTTISH BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Steeple Club rooms, Nethergate, Dundee, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. J. S. A. Spence, Ph.D., M.R.C.V.S., on "A Day's Work" (illustrated talk).

EAST METROPOLITAN BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, and LONDON BRANCH, GUILD OF PUBLIC PHARMACISTS, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.1, at 7.30 p.m. Dr. H. E. Archer, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., F.R.I.C. (chemical pathologist, St. Bartholomew's Hospital) on "Drug Addiction and Alcoholism."

LANCASTER and MORECAMBE BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Cross Keys hotel, Market Street, Lancaster, at 7.45 p.m. Mr. W. T. Elder (a member of the Society's Council) on "Ethical Conduct in Retail Practice."

LEEDS BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Metropole hotel, Leeds, at 7.45 p.m. Dr. K. R. Capper (editor of the Society's scientific publications) on "The National Formulary."

LONDON SECTION, ROYAL INSTITUTE OF CHEMISTRY, Battersea Polytechnic, Battersea Park Road, London, S.W.11, at 6.30 p.m. Professor Sir Eric Rideal, M.B.E., F.R.S., on "Surface Chemistry."

MANCHESTER PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, council chamber, Houldsworth Hall, Manchester, at 7.45 p.m. Address by Mr. G. B. Manning (group pathologist, Bolton Royal Infirmary).

SCARBOROUGH BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Palm Court hotel, Scarborough, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. S. Foord on "More About Old Scarborough."

SOCIETY OF COSMETIC CHEMISTS, Royal Society of Arts, John Adam Street, London, W.C.2, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. A. J. Kraikeman, A.R.I.C., on "Some Aspects of Perfumery Chemicals."

Friday, December 9

FINE CHEMICALS GROUP, SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY, chemistry lecture theatre, King's College, Strand, London, W.C.2, at 7 p.m. Dr. F. R. Smith (I. & H. Smith, Ltd.) on "Recent Work on the Tropic Alkaloids."

HULL CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION and BRANCH, Beverley Arms hotel, Hull, at 7.30 p.m. Hot pot supper, followed by a discussion.

LONDON SECTION, ROYAL INSTITUTE OF CHEMISTRY, Reading Technical College, at 5.45 p.m. Drs. F. M. Brewer (Oxford) and D. T. Lewis (Aldermaston) speaking in a debate on the education of scientists.

Saturday, December 10

BRISTOL BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, great hall, Bristol College of Technology, at 7.15 p.m. Social evening, at which students of the School of Pharmacy at the College will entertain members.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF CHEMISTS, Grand hotel, New Brighton, Ches., at 2.30 p.m. Annual meeting.

WESTERN SECTION, SOCIETY FOR ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY, Park hotel, Cardiff, at 11.30 a.m. Annual meeting.

Advance Information

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY is holding an evening meeting at 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.1, on December 12, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. H. A. R. Binney (director and secretary, British Standards Institution) is lecturing on the work of that Institution.

WEST OF IRELAND CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION and WESTMEATH PHARMACEUTICAL FEDERATION are holding a joint dance in Athlone on January 4, 1956, from which proceeds are for the Benevolent Fund of the Pharmaceutical Society. Ticket from the joint secretaries, Miss M. McGuinness and Mr. Seamus Fox, Athlone, or from Mr. Francis Rouse, Athlone.

PRINT AND PUBLICITY

Medical Propaganda

Manufacturers' leaflets, folders, booklets, etc., directed to doctors but available to pharmacists.

GEIGY PHARMACEUTICAL CO., LTD., Rhodes, Middleton, Manchester: "Folia Dermatologica: Dermatomycoses I" (8-p. booklet). First edition in series.

HARKER STAGG, LTD., Emmott Street, London, E.1: "New Research on Procidets" (6-p. folder).

MERCK-SHARP & DOHME, LTD., Hoddesdon, Herts: "Treatment with Hydro-Cortone," "Hydro-Cortone Acetate in Allergic Dermatoses," "Hydro-Cortone Acetate in Inflammatory Skin Disorders" (20-p. booklet, 6-p. folders).

ORGANON LABORATORIES, LTD., Brettenham House, Lancaster Place, London, W.C.2: "Pregnyl," "Stencidiol" (8-p. booklets).

PAINES & BYRNE, LTD., Pabym Laboratories, Perivale, Greenford, Middlesex: "Di-sipidin in enuresis and diabetes insipidus" (file card).

PHARMACEUTICAL SPECIALITIES (MAY & BAKER), LTD., Dagenham, Essex: "Largactil and the Care of the Cancer Patient" (4-p. folder).

Commercial Television

THE following products are being advertised on commercial television (London station) on the days stated:—

SUNDAY, December 4: BiSoDol; Zubes cough lozenges; Loxene medicated shampoo; Max Factor beauty preparations (between 8 and 9 p.m.); Benger's food (between 3 and 3.30 p.m.); Palmolive soap (between 8 and 9.30 p.m.).

MONDAY, December 5: Knight's Castile soap; Brylcreem (8 p.m.); Carter's little liver pills (between 8 and 10 p.m.); Savlon antiseptic cream (between 7 and 8 p.m.).

TUESDAY, December 6: Lucozade (between 2.30 and 3 p.m.); Beecham's powders (between 8.30 and 9 p.m.); Palmolive soap (between 8 and 9.30 p.m.); Philishave shaver (between 8 and 10 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, December 7: Savlon antiseptic cream (between 5 and 6 p.m.).

THURSDAY, December 8: Gibb's Christmas packs; Brylcreem (8 p.m.); Prom home permanent (between 7 and 8 p.m.).

FRIDAY, December 9: Beecham's pills (between 10 and 11 p.m.); Lux toilet soap.

SATURDAY, December 10: Silvikrin shampoo; Alka-Seltzer (between 10 and 10.30 p.m.); Vaseline shampoo (between 8 and 9.30 p.m.); Hughes brushes (4 p.m.); Lloyd's adrenaline cream (between 2 and 6 p.m.); Rolls Razor; Rise (between 9.30 and 11 p.m.); Max Factor beauty preparations (between 8.30 and 9.30 p.m.); Ronson electric shaver.



MAKING IT SEASONABLE: Display crowner for attaching to the lid of an open presentation case for the Ronson electric shaver. The crowner links with additional Christmas advertising by the manufacturers, Ronson Products, Ltd., 112 Strand, London, W.C.2.

C. & D. WEEKLY LIST OF PRICES

A=Advanced; R=Reduced; I.R.P.=Inclusive Retail Price; *Tax 30 per cent.

ALLEN & HANBURY, LTD. (from November 28) Each I.R.P.
Apyrogen with chlorocresol 1 per cent. 1 8 2 6 A

C. L. BENCARD, LTD. (tax exemption) (from November 28)
Paynocil tablets 200 21 8 R

BLANELLA, LTD. (post-Budget price)
Blanella electric blanket* 64 11 A

BRITISH SCHERING, LTD. (from December 4)
Albucid pH adjusted substance 1 oz. 7 6 10 0 A
8 oz. 52 6 70 0 A
Progynon B oleosum 3 6 4 8 R
25 x 1 mgm. 15 0 20 0 R

BRITTON, MALCOLM, & CO., LTD. (correction to advertisement)
No. 18 throat and nose spray 9 0
Resila Eight spray 9 8

PHARMACEUTICAL SPECIALITIES (MAY & BAKER), LTD. (post-Budget prices)
Ametox* 9 0 A
Anthinal* 4 2 1/2 A
Anthiomaline* 9 0 A
12 7 A

Leucarsone tablets* 3 7 A
66 0 A

Neo-Varicane* 4 9 1/2 A
Phytodermine powder* cream 3 3 1/2 A
3 0 A
Piperoxane hydrochloride* 18 0 A
Sonalgin tablets* 2 5 A
Zephrol cough syrup* 3 0 A

ROBERTS & SHEPPEY, LTD. (post-Budget prices)
Mel Rose tablets* 5 A
9 A
with cartons 6 A
11 A

RECKITT & COLMAN, LTD. (from December 1)
Dettol B 2 3 A

SOLPORT BROS., LTD. (post-Budget prices)
Doz. 40 6 6 0 A
Portia baby balance* hammock 42 6 5 4 A

HENRY TETLOW CO., LTD. (post-Budget prices)
Swadown face powder† 2 2 A
3 0 A

foundation cream† 2 8 A
3 9 A
skin Velvet† 2 6 A
4 7 A
skin food† 3 9 A
beauty film† 1 9 A
6 5 A

skin Glo make-up† 2 2 A
3 9 A
6 5 A
Fresh up† 3 6 A
6 5 A

turtle oil cream† 2 2 A
6 5 A
8 10 A
turtle oil lotion† 6 5 A
8 10 A

turtle oil face mask† 11 A
cover tint† 1 8 A
cream rouge† 2 6 A
lipstick† 3 9 A
refill 2 6 A
6 5 A
eye shadow† 1 3 A
2 6 A

UNITED CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION, LTD. (post-Budget prices)

Ucal bay rum† 2 8 A
bay rum and cantharidin† 2 8 A
brilliantine† 1 10 1/2 A
calamine cream† 1 7 A
hair tonic† 2 8 A
night balm† 2 6 A
4 6 A
pine bath essence† 6 3 A
toilet lanolin† 2 1 1/2 A
witch hazel jelly† 1 10 1/2 A

NEW PRODUCTS AND PACKS

BARBER ELECTRICAL SERVICES, LTD.
Barber health lamp No. 465 500 0

BENGUE & CO., LTD.
Veltis cream* unperfumed 20 6 2 10
Veltis cream† perfumed 20 6 3 10

BOOTS PURE DRUG CO., LTD.
Cortistab tablets 40 52 6
100 129 0

500 641 3
injection 16 10 1/2
eye-drops 4 6
eye ointment 3 9
Hydrocortistab tablets 100 168 9
local injection 15 9
intravenous injection 17 7 1/2

CIBA LABORATORIES, LTD.
Ritalin tablets* 25 4 2 1/2
100 14 1 1/2
500 66 0

DUNCAN, FLOCKHART & CO., LTD.
Pethidine hydrochloride tablets 25 mgm. 100 7 6
500 34 3
50 mgm. 100 14 6
500 64 9

Pethidine hydrochloride injection 50 mgm. in 1 c.c. 5 6
12 x 1 c.c. 41 0
100 x 1 c.c. 7 9
12 x 2 c.c. 58 0
100 x 2 c.c. 58 0
50 c.c. in rubber capped vial 12 0

Pethidine hydrochloride, B.P. 1 gm. 3 0

ALFRED FRANKS & BARTLETT CO., LTD.
Bartex mirror-backed brush 2 11

P.A.T.A. PROTECTED LIST

(Alterations notified this week by the Proprietary Articles Trade Association.)

ALLIED LABORATORIES, LTD.
Somnitol tablets* (new pack) 100 102 0 15 0

J. E. ELLIS, LTD. (new size) 1 1/2 Doz. 3 7 4
Daisy tablets* 3 7 4

FORHAN'S, LTD. (Agents: FASSETT & JOHNSON, LTD.) (post-Budget prices)
Forhan's tooth-paste for the gums* Doz. 11 6 1 7 1/2 A
18 9 2 8 1/2 A

GRANTO LABORATORIES, LTD. (post-Budget prices)
Plesox tablets* 50 21 8 3 3 A
100 40 0 6 0 A
200 66 8 10 0 A

J. GROSSMITH & SON, LTD.
White Fire perfume† 600 27 6 5 6
601 56 0 11 3
602 100 0 20 0
bouquet† 603 29 4 5 11
bath cubes† 16 0 3 3
toilet soap†

Old Cottage lavender and White Fire 3 35 0 5 3
floral 3 31 6 4 9

HIRST, BROOKE, GOODALLS, LTD. (post-Budget prices)
Smedley's paste* 26 0 3 7 A

JORDAN MEDICINE CO. (post-Budget prices)
Jordan's gin pills* 12 0 1 9 A

KNOLL, LTD. (post-Budget prices)
Calcium Diuretin tablets* 200 160 6 22 0 A
Diuretin tablets* 200 160 6 22 0 A

Euresol pro capillis* 1 oz. 58 8 6 6 1/2 A
Iodo calcium Diuretin powder* 58 8 6 6 1/2 A

Matronax tablets* 250 297 0 33 0 A
Neo-Octon tablets* 100 157 11 17 6 1/2 A

LIFE & BEAUTY, LTD. (Gayelord Hauser preparations)

calcium with vitamin D tablets 23 0 2 9
vitamin B compound 29 6 3 6
tablets 38 0 4 6

vitamin C tablets 33 6 4 0
vitamins A and D capsules 50 6 6 0
wheat germ oil capsules 50 6 6 0

vitamin E capsules 67 0 8 0
G.H. vitamin capsules

SANDERSONS (CHEMISTS), LTD. (post-Budget prices)

Sandersons throat specific* 12 10 1 10 A
cough linctus* 12 10 1 10 A

children's cough linctus* 12 10 1 10 A
vapour rub* 9 2 1 4 A

DELETIONS FROM PROTECTED LIST

POND'S EXTRACT CO., LTD.
Pond's hand lotion, antiseptic cream and P.E.C. inhalant.

F. & G. TURNPENNY, LTD.
Perfumes by Parfumerie L.T. Piver of Paris.

